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MARVEL AGE®

69 DEC

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INSIDE INFO ON THE INHUMANS™ GRAPHIC NOVEL

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW WITH X-MEN'S® MARC SILVESTRI!

PLUS: PREVIEWS OF STRAY TOASTERS™ AND COUNT DUCKULA™!

Stan Lee presents

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SALICRUP'S SECTION

Back on May 23, at New York's Jacob Javits Convention Center, **Mark Gruenwald, Don Perlin,** and I attended "The Governor's Career and Education Expo '88." No, we weren't looking for new jobs, you wise guys, we were there on behalf of Marvel to talk about career opportunities in the comic book business to the thousands of kids in attendance. Marvel, DC, and Archie Comics got together for this special event, and we each took turns manning our booth. Special editions of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #304, as well as issues of ARCHIE and SUPERMAN were distributed free to everyone that dropped by. These special editions had an inside front cover, written by DC's **Paul Levitz**, outlining the various jobs available.

CITYKIDS SPEAK ON LIFE'S CHOICES

Speaking for myself, I had a great time. Any chance I get to meet and talk to people about comics, I leap at! Yes, I admit it, I'm a ham, but I really do love talking comics. The hundreds of high school students that stopped by the booth asked intelligent questions, that we all strived to answer honestly and informatively. It was quite an experience, and we're all looking forward to next year's Expo. Better than that, we're all looking forward to the day when someone we spoke to at the Expo is working full time at mighty Marvel!

--Jim Salicrup

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Tom DeFalco
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Jim Salicrup
Supreme Marvel Zombie

Dwight Jon Zimmerman
Managing Editor

Shelly Fisch
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Fred Hembeck
Sage of Marvel Age

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MARVEL®

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Here is a complete checklist of what's happening in all the Marvel, Epic, Star, and New Universe titles bearing a **January** cover date.

The awesome secret of **Madelyne Pryor**—revealed at last! The first of the 1988 MARVEL MASTERWORKS volumes comes to book stores everywhere! **Bullwinkle** runs for mayor! And that's just a hint of the excitement you can expect next month! Don't risk missing out on the fun. Tell your comics shop owner to reserve your favorite titles right now!

Titles Shipping September 6
On Sale September 27

☐**EXCALIBUR** #4–Just when you thought things couldn't get any stranger…Get set! Here comes the return of the mad master of Murderworld, **Arcade!** Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **Alan Davis,** and inked by **Paul Neary.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐**SEMPER FI** #2–In two hard-hitting tales witness World War II and the Vietnam War alongside the marines who saw it all! You'll see how an elderly Vietnamese man helps a wounded American–and changes both of their lives forever! "The Village War" is written by **Michael P. Palladino,** penciled by **Andy Kubert,** and inked by **John Severin.**

Meanwhile, back in 1943, you'll learn what it's like to be in the middle of a war zone…when you're not even part of the war! Meet the "War Correspondent" written by **Michael P. Palladino** and drawn by **Sam Glanzman.** 75¢

☐**WEST COAST AVENGERS** #40–**Night Shift** decides the only way they can bust their friend, **Digger,** out of jail is to exchange him for some hostages. And the object of their hostage hunt is the **West Coast Avengers!** Written by **Mark Gruenwald** and penciled by **Al Milgrom.** 75¢.

☐**WOLFPACK Limited Series** #6–A haunted house in the South Bronx?! Actually, the real danger doesn't come from ghosts–it comes from the criminals who are using the house as a headquarters! Plotted and penciled by **Ron Wilson** and scripted by **John Figueroa.** 75¢.

☐**G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS** #17–The **Joes** take on their most challenging assignment yet when they are assigned to protect a top secret high-tech government project in Siliconville. "All in a Night's Work" is written by **Larry Hama,** penciled by **Herb Trimpe,** and inked by **Andy Mushynsky.** $1.00.

☐**HEATHCLIFF'S FUNHOUSE** #11–When **Heathcliff** and **Iggy** take a trip through a ghost town, the last thing they expect to find is…real ghosts! Who will tame the spirits and become "Sheriff of Boo Town"? Written by **Angelo DeCesare,** penciled by **Howie Post,** and inked by **Roberta Edelman.** A Star Comic. $1.00.

☐**WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** #46–The empress of hate, **Nekra,** is stirring up trouble in Cape Cod, Massachusetts! **Spider-Man**'s in town, but even with the help of everyone's favorite scientific adventurer, **Hank Pym,** can **Spidey** save the people of Cape Cod from themselves? Written and penciled by **Richard Howell,** inked by **Keith Williams.** $1.00.

☐**MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #10–Four great stories–coming at you every two weeks!

WOLVERINE–the final chapter! What happens here sets the sinister stage for the first issue of the WOLVERINE series! Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **John Buscema,** and inked by **Klaus Janson.**

MAN-THING Part X–Once the swamp was his refuge–now it could become the **Man-Thing**'s grave! Written by **Steve Gerber** and illustrated by **Tom Sutton.**

COLOSSUS–the debut of a new serial! It's **Colossus** against the C.I.A. and it's anyone's guess who will win! Written by **Ann Nocenti** and penciled by **Rick Leonardi.**

Plus: complete in this issue, **Machine Man** must stop the rampage of **Failure Five,** a renegade robot! Scripted by **Mike Rockwitz,** plotted and penciled by **Steve Ditko,** and inked by **Dave Cockrum.** 32 pages. Biweekly. $1.25.

☐**CONAN THE KING** #50–At long last! Beginning the tale you demanded–the long-awaited conclusion to the "Sorcerer's Ring" saga from CONAN THE KING #s 28 and 29! There's danger in the air when an oracle warns **Conan** about an unnamed evil that's coming to kill him. And considering that even **Conan**'s own son is a demonic changeling, it's a warning he'd better pay attention to! "Night Winds" is written by **James C. Owsley** and illustrated by **Geof Isherwood,** 48 pages. $1.50

☐**DAREDEVIL** #262–If you thought Inferno only affected the mutants–you're wrong! **Daredevil** discovers that the demons' efforts to enslave Earth are turning Hell's Kitchen into a nightmarish neighborhood where literally everything is alive with malevolent menace! Guest-starring the **Black Widow.** And a special appearance by **Stick!** Written by **Ann Nocenti,** penciled by **John Romita Jr.** and inked by **Al Williamson.** 75¢.

new universe™

☐**PSI-FORCE** #27–The **Psi-Force** become Russian agents? If you think *that's* a shock, wait'll you see the reason why! Written by **Fabian Nicieza,** penciled by **Mike Witherby,** and inked by **Chris Ivy.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI** #25–The **Morituri** welcome three new members. But the welcome may be *very* short-lived, because the government's secret anti-Morituri force is planning to make instant martyrs of the whole **Strikeforce: Morituri** team! Written by **James D. Hudnall,** penciled by **Mark Bagley,** and inked by **Val Mayerick.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**TALES OF G.I. JOE** #13–Re-presenting from G.I. JOE #13: The **Joes, Stalker, Breaker** and **Gung Ho** are trapped in a deadly jungle at the not-so-tender mercy of the **Baroness!** But the **Baroness** hasn't planned on **Scarlet's** daring, last-minute rescue attempt! "Last Plane from Rio Lindo" is written by **Larry Hama,** penciled by **Mike Vosburg,** and inked by **John D'Agostino.** 32 pages. Baxter paper. $1.50.

☐**STRAY TOASTERS Limited Series** #1–When a serial killer menaces a city of the future, criminal psychologist **Egon Rustemagik** must find him…or *it*! But can **Egon** immerse himself in an insane society without going insane himself? "Blood and Oranges" is written and illustrated by **Bill Sienkiewicz.** A 48-page Epic Comics graphic album. For mature readers. Hudson Offset paper. $3.50.

Titles Shipping September 13
On Sale October 4

☐**SPIDER-MAN COMICS MAGAZINE** #13–Re-presenting from THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #s 86-88: The **Black Widow** has reformed from her life of crime! So why is she fighting **Spider-Man?** Also: **Peter Parker** reveals his secret to a roomful of people! And that hard-to-find classic **Spider-Man** tale from MARVEL SUPER HEROES #14 featuring **Spidey** vs. the sinister **Sorcerer!** Written by **Stan Lee,** penciled by **John Romita** and **Ross Andru,** and inked by **Jim Mooney** and **Bill Everett.** A 64-page Marvel digest. $1.50.

new universe

☐**D.P. 7** #27–In a searing tale of honor, redemption and death, **D.P. 7**'s **Dave Landers** and two other paranormals embark on a suicide mission into the Pitt. Do any of them come back alive? That's not as important as what they see...and experience...once they get there! Written by **Mark Gruenwald,** penciled by **Paul Ryan,** and inked by **Danny Bulanadi.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**THE NEW MUTANTS** #71–The **New Mutants** are trapped in Limbo, and to get out, they'll have to fight **S'ym** and an army of demons! But winning the battle might be the worst possible thing they could do! "One Is the Loneliest Number" is written by **Louise Simonson** and drawn by **Bret Blevins.** $1.00.

☐**SOLARMAN** #1–Here comes the newest teen hero on the block! When a tyrannical alien threatens to destroy the Earth, the planet's only hope is a teen-aged comic book artist. But considering that the teen-ager possesses the power of the sun itself, the odds aren't as bad as they sound! "Star Burst!" is written by **Stan Lee,** penciled by **Jim Mooney,** and inked by **Dennis Janke.** 32 pages. $1.00.

☐**ALPHA FLIGHT** #66–**Mannekin's** leaving **Alpha Flight**...and you won't believe the reason why! Without a doubt, this is **Alpha Flight's** most off-beat adventure ever! "Killing Me Softly with His Word Processor" is written by **Bill Mantlo,** penciled by **Hugh Haynes,** and inked by **Gerry Talaoc.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**CAPTAIN AMERICA** #349–You'd think that the combined forces of the **Captain, D-Man,** and **Battlestar** would be more than a match for the villainous **Flag-Smasher,** wouldn't you? Well, you'd be wrong! There's only one way the heroes can beat him...and that's if one of the heroes makes the ultimate sacrifice! Written by **Mark Gruenwald,** penciled by **Kieron Dwyer,** and inked by **Al Milgrom.** 75¢.

☐**WOLVERINE** #3–It's **Wolverine!** It's the **Silver Samurai!** And it's the malignant power of the **Black Blade** out to destroy them both! You must not miss this, the final chapter! Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **John Buscema,** and inked by **Al Williamson.** 32 pages. Baxter paper. $1.50.

☐**THE SILVER SURFER Limited Series** #2–It's the awesome conclusion to this galaxy-spanning epic, brought to you by two of the world's most renowned comics creators! The **Silver Surfer** has the power to save the universe from the malevolent **Mephisto,** but the only way he can do it is by giving **Mephisto** his soul! "Parable" is written by **Stan Lee** and illustrated by **Moebius.** An Epic Comic. 32 pages. $1.00.

☐**POWERLINE** #4–Last time around, **Vic** and **Lenore** prevented a planeload of people from crashing to their deaths. But that was easy compared to facing a trio of super powered **Shadow Dweller** assassins! "Amateur Night" is written by **D.G. Chichester** and **Margaret Clark,** and illustrated by **Dave Ross** and **Gray Morrow.** An Epic Comic. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**GROO THE WANDERER** #47–**Groo**'s managed to lay his hands on a fabulous gem! But what's its mysterious secret? Why is it being sought by everyone from **Groo**'s sister **Grooella** to the **Minstrel** to the **Sage?** And can **Groo** keep from breaking it long enough to find out some answers? Written and drawn by **Sergio Aragones** and eviscerated by **Mark Evanier.** An Epic Comic. 32 pages. $1.00.

☐**SOLO AVENGERS** #14–With two stories each issue, you get twice as much Avenging action for your money! When the **Black Widow** finds herself about to be snuffed by **A.I.M.,** it's **Hawkeye** to the rescue! "When the Widow Calls" is written by **Tom DeFalco,** penciled by **Al Milgrom,** and inked by **Jose Marzan.**

Also: Who's the strongest female in the Marvel Universe–**Titania** or the **She-Hulk?** You'll find out in this no-holds-barred battle! "Court Costs" is written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **Alan Davis,** and inked by **Joe Rubinstein.** 75¢.

☐**THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #131–Inferno's taking over Manhattan! An innocent man dies trying to save **Spidey!** And waiting malevolently in the wings is... **Mysterio!** Written by **David Michelinie** and illustrated by **Todd McFarlane.** $1.00.

☐**ALF COMICS MAGAZINE** #2–There's madcap fun aplenty on both Earth and planet Melmac in this collection of classic tales reprinted from ALF #s 3 and 4! Written by **Michael Gallagher,** penciled by **Dave Manak,** and inked by **Marie Severin.** A 64-page Star Comics digest. $1.50.

☐**THE 'NAM MAGAZINE** #6–Re-presenting from THE 'NAM #s 11 and 12: An Xmas truce is only a few days away...but a few days is a long time in the world of the 'Nam! And what is a typical day like in 'Nam? **Ed Marks** wants to let his family know, but can any letter do justice to what he's seen? "'Tis the Season" and "From Cedar Falls, with Love" are written by **Doug Murray** and illustrated by **Michael Golden, John Beatty,** and **John Severin.** A 48-page black and white Marvel magazine. $2.00.

☐**THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** #155–**Conan** and his band of rogues have heard tell of a fabulous treasure hidden in a deserted city. But they haven't heard about the community of vampires that lives there! "Behind the Walls of Night" is written by **Chuck Dixon** and illustrated by **Ernie Chan.** A 64-page, black and white Marvel magazine. For Mature Readers, $2.00.

☐**HAVOK AND WOLVERINE: MELTDOWN Limited Series** #1–What do Chernobyl, a Mexican bar, and the bubonic plague have in common? When **Havok** and **Wolverine** find out, they may be sorry they did! Written by **Walt** and **Louise Simonson** and painted by **Jon J Muth** and **Kent Williams.** An Epic Comic. 48 pages. Direct Sales only. $3.50.

☐**NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. Limited Series** #6–All of your questions are answered in the wild wrap-up of this much-talked-about Limited Series! Who will live? Who will die? And what will be the final fate of **S.H.I.E.L.D.?** Written by **Bob Harras,** penciled by **Paul Neary,** inked by **Kim DeMulder,** and a cover painted by **Tom Palmer.** A Marvel Graphic Album. 48 pages. $3.50.

☐**G.I. JOE** Trade Paperback–Relive classic, top secret adventures of the **Joes** from G.I. JOE #50 and G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #s 1-4, collected in a long-lasting paperback edition! Whether they're in the jungles of Central America, the Middle East, a hijacked Russian plane, or even the middle of the ocean, there's no denying that the **Joes** are Real American Heroes! 112 pages. $6.95.

Titles Shipping September 20 On Sale October 10

☐**MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE** #70–**Byrne** is back and Marvel's got him! You'll learn all about **John Byrne**'s plans for THE STAR BRAND, WEST COAST AVENGERS, and the brand new SHE-HULK series in the Marvel Age Interview! And you'll also get the full lowdown on SOLARMAN, written by **Stan (the Man) Lee,** and the anniversary plans for THE AVENGERS, CAPTAIN AMERICA, and THOR, as well as **Stan**'s Soapbox, the Mutant Report, **Hembeck,** Marvel Trivia Quiz, and all your other favorite regular features. Direct Sales only. 50¢.

☐**CONAN THE BARBARIAN** #214–Lost in the desert, the thirst-maddened **Conan** staggers into what he thinks is a refuge sent from the gods–but what is it really? "City of Light" is written by **Val Semeiks** and **Charles Santino,** penciled by **Val Semeiks,** and inked by **Alfredo Alcala.** $1.00.

new universe™

☐**JUSTICE** #27–Talk about trouble, **Justice** has more than his hands full this time! Not only must he stop the assassin, **Quill,** from killing his daughter, he also has to deal with his daughter's sudden manifestation of her paranormal powers! Written by **Peter David,** penciled by **Lee Weeks,** and inked by **Mike Gustovitch.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**MUPPET BABIES** #23–It's always your favorite time of year in the fantastic Hall of Seasons. But there's stormy weather ahead when the **Muppet Babies** wish for all four seasons at once! Written by **Angelo DeCesare,** penciled by **Marie Severin,** and inked by **Jaqueline Roettcher.** A Star Comic. $1.00.

☐**G.I. JOE** #82–How does an ordinary American soldier become a **Joe?** You'll find out all about the **Joes'** special selection and training processes in this look behind the scenes! But whatever you do, don't show your copy to **Cobra!** Written by **Larry Hama,** penciled by **Marshall Rogers,** and inked by **Randy Emberlin.** $1.00.

☐**THE INCREDIBLE HULK** #351–How did the **Hulk** survive the fateful explosion of the gamma bomb? How'd he wind up working for a gangster in Las Vegas? The long-awaited answers are all here…and they're even stranger than you suspect! Written by **Peter David** and drawn by **Jeff Purves.** 75¢.

☐**MARVEL TALES** #219–Re-presenting from THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #202: You know the **Punisher** as a cool, seasoned professional. But what was he like in the early days of his war on crime? Here's your chance to find out as **Spidey** and the **Punisher** team up to battle a menace from the **Punisher's** perilous past! Written by **Marv Wolfman,** penciled by **Keith Pollard,** and inked by **Jim Mooney.** Also: An all-new anthropomorphic adventure of **Peter Porker, the Spectacular Spider-Ham.** Written by **Michael Eury,** penciled by **Alan Kupperberg,** and inked by **Joe Albelo.** 75¢.

☐**LIGHT AND DARKNESS WAR Limited Series** #2–It's a war that pits the spirits of Earth's warriors against the legions of oblivion. And it's about to get worse! For the success of **Lazarus Jones** and the **Light Gang's** raid on a Deadsider prison is about to be shattered by **Lord Na's** sorcerous gambit to seize weapons from Earth for the ultimate assault against the forces of Light! Written by **Tom Veitch,** illustrated by **Cam Kennedy.** An Epic Comic. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.95.

☐**MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #11–The biweekly action gets gritty!

COLOSSUS Part II–An innocent family finds itself thrust into the middle of **Colossus's** war with the **C.I.A.!** Written by **Ann Nocenti** and penciled by **Rick Leonardi.**

MAN-THING Part XI–It's the beginning of the end for the **Man-Thing!** Written by **Steve Gerber** and drawn by **Tom Sutton.**

Plus complete in this issue:

Malcolm of **Wolfpack** discovers that having a "tough" image carries with it a price–a bloody price! Written by **John Figueroa** and penciled by **Ron Wilson.**

Devil-Slayer was once an assassin for demons, then he went renegade. Now he stands to lose both his life and soul at the hands of the demons he deserted! "To Slay the Devil" is written by **Dwight Jon Zimmerman,** penciled by **Rod Ramos,** and inked by **Jim Sanders.** 32 pages. $1.25.

☐**AND ROCKY** #8–It's election time, and everybody wants to be mayor–even **Bullwinkle** and **Boris Badenov!** No matter which one wins the local election, politics are never going to be the same! Written by **Dave Manak,** penciled by **Ernie Colon,** and inked by **Al Milgrom.** A Star Comic. $1.00.

☐**THE AVENGERS** #299–**Captain America's** back, and he's looking for a few good **Avengers!** But the big question is…which **Captain America** is it? You won't want to miss the beginning of the **Avengers'** "Resurrection!" Written by **Walt Simonson,** penciled by **John Buscema,** and inked by **Tom Palmer.** $1.00.

☐**THE PUNISHER** #15–The **Punisher's** war against the **Kingpin** steps up into high gear as he drafts a small army to help him battle the crimelord! But even an army may not be enough when the **Kingpin** sends his newest assassin after the **Punisher!** "To Topple the Kingpin" is written by **Mike Baron,** penciled by **While Portacio,** and inked by **Scott Williams.** $1.00.

☐**THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #240–Who is **Madelyne Pryor**–really? **Mister Sinister** and the demon **N'Astirh** know, and you'll find the full story of **Maddy's** secret past in this special issue! Written by **Chris Claremont** and drawn by **Mark Silvestri.** $1.00.

☐**CLASSIC X-MEN** #29–The **X-Men** meet **Arcade** and are trapped in Murderworld! Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **John Byrne,** and inked by **Terry Austin.** Plus: the **X-Men** go to a costume party–but not everyone's costume is a disguise! Written by **Ann Nocenti** and drawn by **John Bolton.** 32 pages. $125.

☐**THE SILVER SURFER** #19–The massively powerful **Obliterator** is back! Once again, he's armed to the teeth...and he's looking for the **Surfer!** Plotted and penciled by **Marshall Rogers** and scripted by **Michael Higgins.** $1.00.

☐**THE SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER Limited Series** #3–**Prince Namor** discovers himself caught in the cross-fire between the Axis and the Allies during World War II. You know whose side he eventually choses. Now discover the searing reason why! Written by **Roy** and **Dann Thomas,** penciled by **Rich Buckler,** and inked by **Bob McLeod.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

Titles Shipping September 27 On Sale October 18

☐**IRON MAN** #238–The action is all-out! And the reason is revenge! You'll see exactly what we mean when **Iron Man** has to battle the hard-charging and bitter cold blitz of the **Rhino** and the **Blizzard!** Co-plotted and inked by **Bob Layton.** 75¢.

☐**X-TERMINATORS Limited Series** #4–Demons have overrun New York! Babies have been vanishing from their homes! And now, the demonic **N'Astirh** is using a computer to cast his spells! Is there any hope for humanity? The answer lies in this, the final issue! Written by **Louise Simonson,** penciled by **Jon Bogdanove,** and inked by **Al Williamson.** $1.00.

☐**FANTASTIC FOUR** #322–The laws of physics are shattered in this mayhem-filled Inferno crossover! The **Fantastic Four** are caught in the grips of a life and death battle with **Gravitron!** The **Torch** goes wild in a grueling battle against awesome elemental forces! Plus–more on the mystery of **Dragon Man!** Written by **Steve Englehart,** penciled by **Keith Pollard** and inked by **Joe Sinnott.** 75¢.

☐**X-FACTOR** #36–The Inferno has struck! New York's overrun with demons! But to **Cyclops,** that's all a lot less important than finding out the truth about his wife! Written by **Louise Simonson,** penciled by **Walt Simonson,** and inked by **Bob Wiacek.** $1.00.

A **Limited Series** is a title which will only run for a specific number of issues.
A **Graphic Novel** is an 8½" × 11" paperback edition.
A **Digest** is a 4¾" × 6⅝ paperback edition.
A **Trade Paperback** is a 7" × 10" paperback edition.
A **Graphic Album** is a high quality, stiff-covered comic book edition.
A **Direct Sales** title is available only at selected outlets.
Shipping Date refers to when the comics leave the printer.

☐**THE INCAL Graphic Novel** #3–The saga of the **Incal** reaches its climactic conclusion as **John DiFool** and his lilies plunge into a climactic, no-holds-barred battle–with the universe as the prize! **Alexandro Jodorawsky** and **Moebius** Co-Creators. An Epic Graphic Novel. 96 pages. For Mature Readers. $10.95.

☐**ALF** #11–Halloween is here, and **ALF** wants to get in on the fun! How will America's favorite **Alien Life Form** fare on the one night when Earthlings look even stranger than he does? Written by **Michael Gallagher,** penciled by **Dave Manak,** and inked by **Marie Severin.** A Star Comic. $1.00.

☐**SPEEDBALL** #4–There's a corpse in the cornerstone of **Speedball**'s school! How did it get there? And more important, what's its connection with **Speedball**'s parents? Plotted and penciled by **Steve Ditko** and scripted by **Roger Stern.** 75¢.

☐**CARE BEARS** #20–The piggy banks of children all over the world are suddenly empty! Now it's up to the **Care Bears** to find the answer to the mysterious question "Where Have All Our Pennies Gone?" Written by **Angelo DeCesare,** penciled by **Howie Post,** and inked by **Roberta Edelman.** A Star Comic. $1.00.

☐**POWER PACK** #43–**Power Pack**'s parents have learned their secret identities! But that may be the least of their worries if the **Pack** can't defeat the **Bogeyman** and rescue them from the Inferno! Written and penciled by **Jon Bogdanove** and inked by **Sal Valuto.** Direct Sales only. $1.00.

☐**THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** #146–Ever since the **Hobgoblin** adapted the **Green Goblin**'s weapons for his own evil ends, he's made life pretty rough for the ever-amazing **Spider-Man.** But if **Spidey** thought he had problems before, just imagine how he must feel when the **Green Goblin** returns! Written by **Gerry Conway** and drawn by **Sal Buscema.** $1.00.

☐**THE TRANSFORMERS** #48–**Optimus Prime** vs. **Megatron**–an epic battle so devastating only now can the shocking story be told! What source of power can be so great that it could change the future of both Earth and Cybertron? The answer lies in "The Flames of Boltrax!" Written by **Bob Budiansky,** penciled by **Jose Delbo,** and inked by **Dave Hunt.** $1.00.

☐**DOCTOR STRANGE** #2–The Dread **Dormammu** has taken possession of **Doctor Strange**'s body! And it's going to be kind of hard for **Doc** to get it back, considering that he's trapped in the body of a rat! "The Unbearable Lightness of Being" is written by **Peter B. Gillis,** penciled by **Richard Case,** and inked by **Randy Emberlin.** Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**COUNT DUCKULA** #2–There's cloak and dagger thrills aplenty when **Count Duckula** takes a ride on the Disorient Express! And just in case all this espionage is too much for the vampiric mallard to handle on his own, there's a special appearance by the one and only **Danger Mouse,** straight from his smash hit British TV series! Written by **Michael Gallagher** and drawn by **Warren Kremer.** A Star Comic. $1.00.

☐**G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS** #5–It's Condition Red for **G.I. Joe** in two titanic thrillers!

"Deliverance" reveals the cataclysmic events that touched off the awesome events depicted in G.I. JOE: THE MOVIE! Written by **Mike Collins** and drawn by **Robin Smith.**

"Betrayal" pits **Joe** against **Joe** when **Dusty's** girlfriend is revealed to be a **Cobra** agent! Written by **Ian Rimmer,** penciled by **Ken Hopgood,** and inked by **Tim Perkins.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. Produced in England. $1.50.

☐**AKIRA** #5–Motorcycle gang war takes on a frightening twist when **Kaneda** and his motorcycle gang finally retaliate against the attacks by their rivals, the **Clowns**–unaware that their former comrade, **Tetsu,** altered by his ever-increasing psychic powers, now leads the **Clowns!** Created, written, and illustrated by **Katsuhiro Otomo.** English language adaptation by **Jo Duffy.** An Epic Comic. A 64 page Graphic Album. Direct Sales only. $3.50.

new universe™

☐**THE STAR BRAND** #17–The **Star Brand** is passed on! The result could mean paradise comes to Earth at last! Written and penciled by **John Byrne** and inked by **Tom Palmer.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**THOR** #399–Talk about action–this issue has it! **Balder** in a battle to the death against **Seth! Seth**'s army against the legions of Asgard! And the awesome return of–shucks, if we told you who, we'd ruin half the fun of the story! We kid you not, you must be here "When Asgard Dies!" Written by **Tom DeFalco,** penciled by **Ron Frenz,** and inked by **Brett Breeding.** 75¢.

☐**CONAN SAGA** #20–Re-presenting from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #25: The savage Cimmerian is after a treasure that could cost him his life…or his immortal soul! Even if he can retrieve them, will Conan live to enjoy "The Jewels of Gwahlur?" Adapted from a story by **Conan** creator **Robert E. Howard** by writer **Roy Thomas** and artist **Dick Giordano.** Also: from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #33: **Solomon Kane** blazes a trail of vengeance across a continent as he faces "The Blades of the Brotherhood!" Adapted from the **Robert E. Howard** story by writer **Roy Thomas** and artists **Dave Wenzel** and **Duffy Vohland.** A 64-page black and white Marvel magazine. $2.00.

☐**THE 'NAM** #26–Over the past couple of years, we've seen a lot of characters finish their tours of duty and leave the 'Nam. But what happened to them next? You'll find out as we check up on **Ed, Top, Rob,** and all the rest in this special homefront issue! Written by **Doug Murray,** penciled by **Wayne Vansant,** and inked by **Geof Isherwood.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐**DRAGON'S CLAWS** #5–This time the team struggling to return civilization to a post-apocalyptic Britain must battle a being who literally lives off death–**Death's Head!** "Death Dealers" is written by **Simon Furman** and illustrated by **Geoff Senior.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. Produced in England. $1.50.

☐**MARVEL MASTERWORKS: THE AVENGERS**–The milestone first ten issues of THE AVENGERS–gathered together in a long-lasting hardcover volume! The **Hulk**–fighting with the **Avengers** and against them! The rebirth of **Captain America! The Masters of Evil!** And much, *much* more! Buy two copies and save one for your grandchildren! Written by **Stan Lee,** penciled by **Jack Kirby,** and inked by **Chic Stone** and **Don Heck.** 240 pages. $29.95.

SUPER-VILLAIN™ CHECKLIST

A.I.M.: SOLO AVENGERS #14
Arcade: EXCALIBUR #4
Balthazar: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #11
Blizzard: IRON MAN #238
The Bogeyman: POWER PACK #43
Dormammu: DOCTOR STRANGE #2
Dragon Man: FANTASTIC FOUR #322
The Dream Queen: ALPHA FLIGHT #66
Failure Five: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #10
Flag-Smasher: CAPTAIN AMERICA #349
The Green Goblin: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #146
Gravitron: FANTASTIC FOUR #322
The Hobgoblin: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #146
The Kingpin: THE PUNISHER #15
Madame Hydra: NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. #6
Mephisto: THE SILVER SURFER Limited Series #2
Mister Sinister: THE X-MEN #240
Mysterio: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #311
N'Astirh: THE X-MEN #240, X-FACTOR #36, X-TERMINATORS #4
Nekra: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #46
Night Shift: WEST COAST AVENGERS #40
The Obliterator: THE SILVER SURFER #19
Rhino: IRON MAN #238
Seth: THOR #349
The Silver Samurai: WOLVERINE #3
S'ym: THE NEW MUTANTS #71
Titania: SOLO AVENGERS #14

NEWSWATCH

MOMENTOUS MESSAGES ABOUT MASQUERADES AND MAJOR MOVIES

ITEM: You probably know about the great work UNICEF does, providing basic health care and relief to kids around the world. And you might even know that each Halloween, kids all over America raise money for UNICEF while they go out trick or treating. But didja know that the 1988 national safety chairperson for UNICEF is none other than your friendly neighborhood **Spider-Man**?

Yup, it's true! The web-slinger is teaming up with the folks at UNICEF to help make this Halloween not only fun, but a safe one, too! To help insure that it is, Spidey will be appearing on UNICEF posters, advertisements, and brochures, telling kids what UNICEF does and how to have a safe and happy Halloween. And just to make sure everyone's paying attention, Spider-Man will be making personal appearances in ten cities around the country! Each Spider-Man Event will include a costume parade, carnival, contest for the best costume, and a chance to have your picture taken with the amazing arachnid himself! We'll give you more details on when and where Spidey will appear as soon as the final schedule's available, so keep an eye on this column.

Meanwhile, if you want more information on UNICEF's trick or treat program write to:

Group Programs Dept.
U.S. Committee for UNICEF
311 E. 38th St.
New York, NY 10016

or by calling the folks at UNICEF at (212) 686-5522.

Tell 'em Spidey sent you!

ITEM: Better start saving up that popcorn, because the rumors are true—there really is a full-fledged PUNISHER motion picture in the works! The movie features the **Punisher** caught in the middle of a titanic gang war between the **Mafia** and the **Yakuza**, so you know there's bound to be action aplenty!

To play the Punisher, you'd need somebody who's able to handle that much hard-hitting action. So who could be better than ROCKY IV and HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE star **Dolph Lundgren**? (Who's the wise guy who said "**Irving Forbush**"?)

It'll probably be a year or so before THE PUNISHER movie comes to your local theater. But you know where to look for up-to-the-minute information as it develops, don't you?

Um, what was the name of that magazine again . . .?

THE TOP TEN

The results are in and thanks to you, our biweekly titles have swept the Top Ten! In case you're picking up MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE for the first time, our Top Ten is the list of Marvel's ten best-selling titles in the Direct Sales market. It's compiled by our Vice President/Direct Sales **Carol Kalish**. Now, here are the standings for May:

1 — **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #1**
2 — **THE UNCANNY X-MEN #234**
3 — **THE UNCANNY X-MEN #233**
4 — **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #2**
5 — **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #3**
6 — **X-FACTOR #32**
7 — **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #22**
8 — **THE NEW MUTANTS ANNUAL #4**
9 — **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #304**
10 — **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #305**

MARVEL® TRIVIA QUIZ

As soon as I heard that the **Inhumans** were starring in this month's MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, images poured before my mind's eye (and you can imagine how messy that can get) — images of their vast and varied history spanning well over twenty years of Marvel Comics — features in their own right, and appearances in the books of others! Before I knew it, I had twenty questions jotted down on my note pad, and I hadn't even gotten up from my sofa!

Think you can come up with the answers just as easily? If not, you don't need to move more than a finger to check the correct answers — just flip to page 32.

—Brian Nelson

1. **Crystal's** child was name **Luna** because:
   A) she derives her powers from the Moon
   B) she is only normal and human while she is on the Moon
   C) she was born on the Moon
   D) Crystal always loved Lana Turner, but there was a typo

2. Luna's babysitter while Crystal is off on **FF** missions is:
   A) **Maya**
   B) **Sharon Selleck**
   C) **Julie Power**
   D) **The Yancy Street Gang**

3. And as seen in X-FACTOR ANNUAL #2, when the royal family are otherwise involved, Luna is cared for on the Moon by the Inhuman named:
   A) **Falcona**
   B) **Glytta**
   C) **Iridia**
   D) **Mary Poppins**

4. Which **Avengers** nemesis is descended from the Inhumans?
   A) **Michael**
   B) **Bloodhawk**
   C) **Maelstrom**
   D) **Henry Peter Gyrich**

5. Where was the Great Refuge located before **Reed Richards** helped **Black Bolt** relocate to the Moon?
   A) the Andes
   B) the Alps
   C) the Himalayas
   D) the Poconos

6. Black Bolt's father, one of the most influential of all the rulers of the Inhumans, was the geneticist named:
   A) **Agon**
   B) **Randac**
   C) **Maximus I**
   D) **Ozzie**

7. Which pair of Inhumans are brothers?
   A) **Triton** and **Karnak**
   B) Black Bolt and Karnak
   C) Triton and **Gorgon**
   D) Karnak and Gorgon

8. Which Inhuman was introduced in the 60's, but didn't speak until the 80's?
   A) Black Bolt
   B) **The Seeker**
   C) **Lockjaw**
   D) **Timberius**

9. MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE ANNUAL #4 brought Black Bolt and the **Thing** together to battle a transmogrified villain:
   A) **Thraxon the Schemer**
   B) **Graviton**
   C) **Sporr**
   D) **Paste-Pot Pete**

10. The worker-clones who served the Great Refuge were known as:
   A) **Alpha Primitives**
   B) **Omegans**
   C) **Attilans**
   D) **Norton** and **Kramden**

11. The **Pursuer** was an Inhumans foe who had been super-evolved from a:
   A) snake
   B) cat
   C) cockroach
   D) Bloomingdale shopper

12. The gene-altering substance to which Inhumans owe their powers is:
   A) Agon
   B) Gingold
   C) Terrigen Mist
   D) green Jell-O

13. This warrior debuted in the Inhumans' own series, but met his ultimate defeat at the hands of the Kree **Captain Marvel**:
   A) **Gaea**
   B) **Shatterstar**
   C) **Phae-Dor**
   D) **Phae-Wray**

14. In what series were Crystal and **Quicksilver** wed?
   A) INHUMANS
   B) AVENGERS
   C) FANTASTIC FOUR
   D) WEIRD WONDER TALES

15. What **Iron Man** foe troubled the team during their sojourn in AMAZING ADVENTURES?
   A) **Ultimo**
   B) **the Radioactive Man**
   C) **the Mandarin**
   D) **Edam** and **Gouda**

16. Which Inhuman is nothing more than a shadow to the naked eye?
   A) **Nebulo**
   B) **Ebon**
   C) **Nocturnus**
   D) **Lamont Cranston**

17. MARVEL SUPER HEROES enjoyed a brief period as a launching ground for new series possibilities; after Captain Marvel, the first character to be so honored was:
   A) Black Bolt
   B) Medusa
   C) Triton
   D) Lockjaw

18. The Inhumans' first series was as a back-up feature in:
   A) FANTASTIC FOUR
   B) X-MEN
   C) THOR
   D) WESTERN TEAM-UP

19. **Johnny Storm** first met Crystal:
   A) in the Great Refuge
   B) in a ruined tenement
   C) in the lair of the **Frightful Four**
   D) in a singles' supermarket

20. The first Inhuman to be introduced to Marvel was:
   A) Medusa
   B) Gorgon
   C) Black Bolt
   D) **Irving Forbush**

X-TRA THE MUTANT REPORT X-TRA

VOLUME 5 "THE NEXT STEP IN NEWS EVOLUTION" NUMBER 10

MARC SILVESTRI INTERVIEW

This year the X-MEN marks its twenty-fifth anniversary. Over the past quarter century an extraordinary series of artists have worked on this series: Jack Kirby, Jim Steranko, Neal Adams, Dave Cockrum, John Byrne, Paul Smith, and John Romita Jr., to name only some. The latest in the distinguished ranks of X-MEN artists is penciler Marc Silvestri. Peter Sanderson conducted this interview with Marc to learn his thoughts about working on THE X-MEN and his career in general.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How did you get started in the comics business?

MARC: Gee, that was a long time ago. By accident, really, to be honest. My cousin was an avid comics collector. I believe he still is. This was eight years ago or so. I was working at a health club in Chicago, managing the place. My only exposure to comics at that time was casual reading at my cousin's house. I was mostly looking at books in which I thought the art looked real nice, because since I wasn't a regular reader, it was hard for me to follow a lot of the continuing stories.

One day I was doodling on a note pad at this health club. At that point I was kind of sick of working there. I drew something — I don't remember what it was — I thought it looked pretty good, and I thought, gee, maybe I should do this for a living. I think mainly at that time because it looked like it might be an easy thing to do. [Laughs] Gee, this isn't work, it's drawing pictures all day long! Little did I know.

My cousin had told me that DC Comics was launching a big talent hunt. This was six or seven months later. At that time I quit my job and I started working on a portfolio. That was really the first time I seriously started drawing. (I had taken art in high school.) I showed my portfolio to the Powers That Be at the Chicago Comicon of that year, and they liked what they saw, and I've been working in comics ever since. A year later I talked to Jim Shooter and showed him what I had, again at the Chicago convention, and I've been with Marvel ever since.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What was your first assignment at Marvel?

MARC: The first story I ever did was originally for SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, but after I did it, they decided to put it in the regular CONAN book. That was CONAN THE BARBARIAN #135.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: You went on to spend a good deal of time on KING CONAN, later known as CONAN THE KING.

MARC: I was with that for a number of years. That was my longest stint before doing THE X-MEN.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Did you enjoy doing sword and sorcery material?

MARC: Yeah, at first I really did. What I wanted to get into when I first got interested in comics was the sword and sorcery stuff. When I was a kid, my brother, who is eleven years older than I am, used to buy Edgar Rice Burroughs books that Frank Frazetta was doing covers for. Even when I was a kid, that artwork fascinated me, and that got me interested in sword and sorcery. So I was real happy to do CONAN for awhile. But, like anything, you get tired of it. I had been doing it for a couple of years, and it was time to move on.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: So what did you do then?

MARC: After I left CONAN THE KING I did a graphic novel called REVENGE OF THE LIVING MONOLITH. Your basic big guy munching on big buildings, like several Japanese horror movies you've seen in the past. David Michelinie wrote it. I worked with [editor] Jim Owsley on the MONOLITH book, and following that he got me the WEB OF SPIDER-MAN stint that I did for six issues, again with David as writer.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What kind of changes did you find yourself making in moving from drawing barbarian stories to super hero stories?

MARC: It's strange going from the barbarian era into a contemporary background, New York City. I wasn't used to drawing that sort of thing. I was eager. I was kind of tired of loincloths and broadswords. It's easy to draw, but it's very limited creatively. I was eager to get into mainstream super hero stories, and when SPIDER-MAN was offered to me, I said, sure, I'll take it. And I had fun with it. I had a good time working with David. I thought we did some interesting stories.

Then one thing led to another and eventually we weren't on the book any more. After that, I really didn't know what I was going to do

in comics. Ann Nocenti offered me a mini-series, X-MEN VS. THE AVENGERS, and I snapped that up right away, number one, because THE X-MEN is a book that I had always wanted to work on since I got involved in comics, but I never thought I'd ever get a chance to do it. And the Avengers are always a lot of fun to draw.

Of course, if it weren't for that series, I never would have been offered the job of doing THE X-MEN. So I'm thankful for that.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How do you enjoy doing THE X-MEN?

MARC: It's great. I'm having a great time with it. It's a real treat to be working with the top people in the field, like Chris Claremont. I can't stress enough how happy I am to be working with Dan Green as an inker. To a penciler, a good inker is more valuable than gold. Dan, I think, is one of the best in the business. So that's another reason working on THE X-MEN has been a real plus for me: having an inker who can really make my pencils look good. He's saved my butt more than once on pages that I didn't think looked very good, but after Dan has gotten ahold of them, they just really look good.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Do you have favorite issues or characters so far?

MARC: I like the three issues we did in the "Fall of the Mutants" series. I also think the issues I'm working on now, in which the Brood make a comeback, came out really well. Chris wrote some really good stories for them, and visually I think they came out the best of all the ones we've done together so far.

On a book like THE X-MEN, where you're dealing with a team of eight members, that can sometimes be grueling, but also, as opposed to doing a single hero book like SPIDER-MAN, if you get tired of doing a certain hero, you know you have seven others to choose from to direct your attention to.

I would have to say my current favorites are Wolverine and Rogue. They're the ones I'm most comfortable with.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Why Wolverine?

MARC: Wolverine, I think, appeals to me because of his savage power. Visually, he makes a great comics character. His natural tools, his claws. His stature, which is stocky and short, which is unusual for a super hero. And his feistiness and his unusual code of honor. They all add up to make him a really unusual character. He's fun to draw.

Storm is another character that

I enjoy drawing. She is a little bit hard to get a handle on, because she is the leader of the group, and she has to be handled in a specific fashion that presented quite a challenge. She has a certain attitude that's tough to capture without dropping into cliches and certain poses. She's a character who's a little more complex than a Captain America, who you have to draw in these star-spangled poses. She's not that cut and dried. She's got a little more complex and deeper personality. So it's kind of tough transferring her to a comic book. But that's probably one of the reasons I enjoy drawing her, because it's a bit of a challenge. But you have to be in the mood for that sort of thing. You have to have an unusual energy level the day you have to draw Storm in a principal role in a specific issue.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How does drawing Rogue differ?

MARC: Rogue is a little more playful. She's not quite as serious as Storm is. She's younger, she's got a lot of energy about her, yet everyone knows she can handle herself well in a fight. There's underlying tragedy to her character, her power being such that she can't have any real physical contact with anyone. It makes her kind of a loner, and she's appealing that way, because although she has this cheerful facade and this playful attitude, deep inside you know there's a lot of pain in there. That's something Chris and I are going to be working on in future issues. We're going to be bringing it out more, and defining the fact that she has all these multiple personalities in her head, which are in constant conflict with her, trying to take control. In fact, we do an issue in which Carol Danvers' personality does take control of Rogue. There's a lot to play with in there. She's got a strong yet playful persona that I find appealing.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What about Psylocke?

MARC: I'm not really sure about Psylocke, and what to do with her. She hasn't been around that long. Chris seems to have a real good view on her. I'm still working on her a bit. I think with a few good issues focusing on her, she'll become a more well-rounded character in my mind.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Colossus?

MARC: Colossus is always a lot of fun. Any time you have to draw a big bruiser like that, you know you're going to have a good time. There's a lot of broad action with him because of his strength and size. You can have people flying all over the place, crashing through walls and windows, and that's always a lot of fun. When I have to do a scene with Colossus, I'm in a good mood that day. His armored body is also visually striking. It works well in a color comic to have this

chrome-plated giant running around with these giant fists and pounding the bad guys. It's a lot of fun.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Dazzler?

MARC: I'm not really sure about Dazzler. She's got a lot of potential, which Chris and I are going to try to realize in the next couple of issues. I like her power, especially the way Chris has defined it, where her power is actually life-sustaining for her. She has to absorb sound in order to live the way we have to eat. Visually she has a good power with the laser effects and all that. So I'm looking forward to using her in the upcoming issues and defining her personality a little bit more.

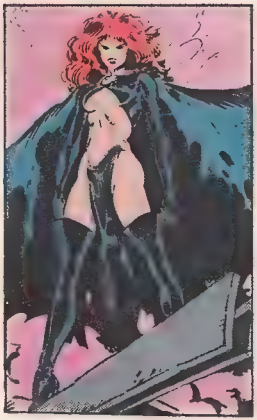
MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Havok?

MARC: Havok has a long history in THE X-MEN, and yet I don't think anyone has really known what to do with the guy. Chris is working on that now. Havok's kind of bland, very even-tempered. He's kind of the preppie of the super hero set. We're going to be adding some strength to his character and some conflict to make him a bit more interesting, a romantic involvement. Again, that's a good visual power he has.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Longshot?

MARC: He's a lot of fun. He's the joker of the group. I liked the character before I started doing THE X-MEN. He's a way for me to draw Spider-Man without drawing Spider-Man. He doesn't have the same powers, obviously, but he's nimble like Spider-Man, and he can bounce around, and he has that light sense of humor that Spider-Man is famous for.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What do you think of THE X-MEN's current Australian setting? Are you using a lot of reference on



Australia?

MARC: Yeah, I've got a lot of reference, a lot of big expensive coffee table books. I'd love to visit there. The place fascinates me. I'd like to explore the territory [in future stories]. It runs the gamut, from civilization to the wildest open plains and jungles.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What can you tell us about the upcoming "Inferno" crossover story in X-MEN and the other mutant books?

MARC: I like crossovers. It's something special to work on. I can't give too much away. There's a lot of surprises. I think a lot of people will be happy to see the return of Mr. Sinister. Ever since he first appeared briefly in two pages in one of the earlier issues I did, whenever I meet fans at conventions, they always ask about Mr. Sinister. He is playing a major role, along with S'ym. There are big surprises with Madeline Pryor. That's probably the biggest thing. A lot of people have been wondering what are we going to be doing with Madeline Pryor, what is she doing there. A lot of those questions are going to be answered in this story.

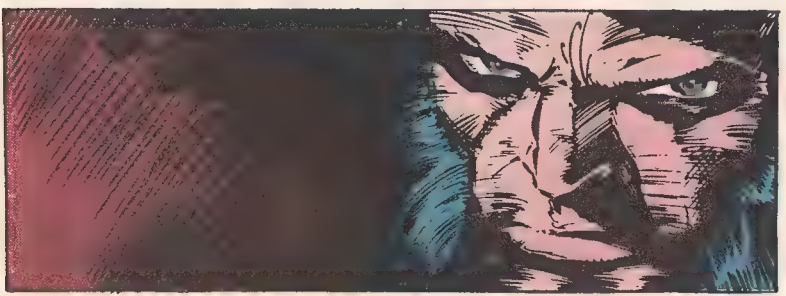
MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How did you design Mr. Sinister?

MARC: Somebody once said about songwriting that if a song takes more than fifteen minutes to write, forget it and start something else. They had asked me for some sketches of Mr. Sinister, and I was tooling around the house. For a couple of days I had been working on these designs and nothing was happening. Federal Express was going to be knocking at my door in a half hour and I had to mail these out that night. Then all of a sudden, because I knew I had to mail it out in a half hour, these ideas started coming to me, and he just sort of came together. The design was received well by the people over at the office. I like the character. I think he's going to be a lot of fun to play with in the future.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: And what would you like to do in comics in the future?

MARC: If time permits, or if I get faster, I'd like to pick up another book, maybe do some writing. Right now I'm happy with THE X-MEN. I'm happy working with Chris. We've got a pretty good working relationship. Chris is always open to suggestions, which I think is great. As I become more comfortable with the characters and know them better, I'm sure there'll be times I can work closely with Chris on plotting. I like working with Bob Harras, who's editing the book. I loved working with Ann. I enjoy the characters and the response from the fans. Like I said before, THE X-MEN is the book that I always wanted to do. So I can see myself doing it for quite a while.

—Peter Sanderson



It's 1947. There's been a murder in Hollywood. A prominent movie star's wife had been seeing someone else behind his back. But now, her partner in "patty-cake" is dead—murdered! And all the evidence suggests the movie star is responsible!

Only one man can help the star prove his innocence and clear his name. That man is **Eddie Valiant**, a down and out private detective who winds up in a reluctant partnership with the star as they try to uncover the identity of the real murderer!

Sounds like it has all the elements of a classic detective story, doesn't it? Well, there's one element that makes this tale different than any detective story you've ever seen before!

The movie star doesn't appear in feature films; he appears in cartoons. His name is **Roger Rabbit**...and he's not quite human. In fact, he's a "Toon"—an animated cartoon rabbit!

You've probably figured out by now that we're talking about WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT. It's this summer's smash hit from Touchstone Pictures and **Steven Spielberg**'s Amblin Entertainment. And this month it hits the stands as a 48 page, $6.95 Marvel Graphic Novel!

The Graphic Novel is produced by

"I'M NOT A GULPER, BUT WHEN JESSICA RABBIT APPEARED ON THAT STAGE, I GULPED. SO THIS WAS ROGER RABBIT'S WIFE! NO WONDER HE COULDN'T KEEP HIS MIND ON HIS WORK!"
"SURE... SHE WAS A TOON. BUT WHAT A TOON! THE EPITOME OF WHAT A PENCIL AND A FERTILE IMAGINATION CAN DO."

the Walt Disney Company and is published and distributed by Marvel. Special Projects Editor **Bob Budiansky** states, "The adaptation is very, very good. It captures a lot of the movie, even though it's not animated."

The Graphic Novel adaptation of WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT is written by **Daan Jippes** and **Don Ferguson** and illustrated by **Dan Spiegle** and Daan Jippes. You might recognize Dan Spiegle's name from his prolific comic book work for a number of companies. And Daan Jippes has quite a following as well because of his acclaimed original stories of the Disney cartoon characters which first appeared in the Netherlands and France and are now being published here.

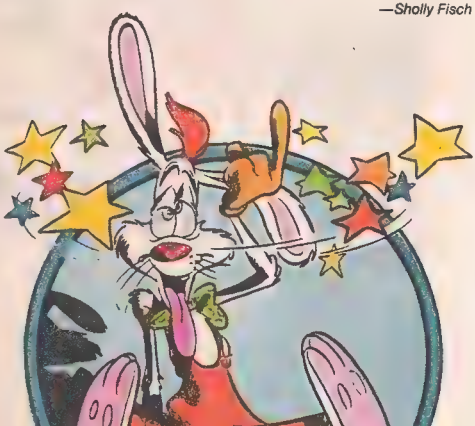
Even with a creative team this experienced in both comics and animation, though, it's not easy turning a movie into a comic book when the movie relies so heavily on the interaction between cartoon characters and real people. But Daan, Don, and Dan (try saying that five times fast!) have come through admirably. "If you're not careful, the trick can be lost," Bob Budiansky says. "But in the adaptation, the people are drawn realistically and the animated characters are drawn in a more traditional, classic cartoony manner, more akin to the Walt Disney or Warner Bros. style of animation. So the distinction which is obvious in the movie is still clear in the comic book. It's still an interaction between real people and cartoon characters."

The interaction allows for a lot more than just a thrilling murder mystery. There are a lot of "behind the scenes" material to show you just what all those Toons do when they're not acting so cute and cuddly on the screen! In fact, in the Graphic Novel you get *behind* "behind the scenes" scenes because since it's adapted from the original screenplay, it includes material that doesn't appear in the movie! Even though, for legal reasons, the cameos by many famous cartoon characters couldn't be included in the Graphic Novel, there's still the menace of Judge Doom—the fiendish villain who plans to rid the world of Toons and Toontown, once and for all!

Whether you were lucky enough to see the film version of WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT and want to re-experience the fun and adventure, or whether you're about to encounter the story for the first time, you're bound to love the Marvel Comics version of WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT. After all, as Bob so aptly put it, ROGER RABBIT is the story of "a man, a woman, and a rabbit caught in a triangle of trouble!"

And what more could you possibly want?

—Shelly Fisch



WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT © 1988 The Walt Disney Company and Amblin Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved

GRIPE DEPT: SO, YOU DON'T THINK THINGS COULD GET ANY WORSE IN YOUR MISERABLE EXISTENCE, DO YOU? **WRONG**, PAL. IF YOU THINK THINGS ARE BAD **NOW**, IMAGINE WHAT IT'D BE LIKE IF **THE ROYAL FAMILY OF ATTILAN** WALKED AMONGST US! WHY, THE VERY THOUGHT!--YOU'D HAVE TO SAY

THAT'S INHUMAN!

WHAT'S INHUMAN?

GOING ON A **BLIND DATE** TO A DANCE PARTY ONLY TO FIND THAT THE **HOOFER'S** NAME IS **GORGON**--

--**THAT'S** INHUMAN!!

SNAP

SNAP

WHAT'S INHUMAN?

AGREEING TO TAKE ON ANOTHER HAIRDRESSER'S CUSTOMER DOWN AT THE BEAUTY SHOP BECAUSE IT'S **ONLY** A **SIMPLE WASH JOB**--

--AND **THEN** SEEING **MEDUSA** WALK IN THE FRONT DOOR--

--**THAT'S** INHUMAN!!

WHAT'S INHUMAN?

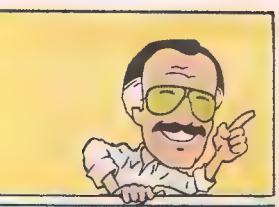
ACCEPTING A **NEW JOB** WITHOUT REALIZING THAT THE PROMISE OF A **LOT OF GREEN** INDICATED THAT YOUR BOSS WOULD BE **TRITON**--

--**THAT'S** INHUMAN!!

SORRY, KID, BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'LL BE WORKING FOR **SCALE**...

BOSS

WHAT'S INHUMAN?
OFFERING TO WALK THE DOG OF A FRIEND OF A FRIEND ONLY TO HAVE LOCKJAW TRANSPORT YOU BACK AND FORTH TO THE MOON BEFORE BREAKFAST EVERY DAY FOR A WEEK--
--THAT'S INHUMAN!!
WHAT'S INHUMAN?
BEING SO DUMB YOU NEED EXTRA SPECIAL HELP IN REMEMBERING CRYSTAL'S CODE NAME IN THE FANTASTIC FOUR--
ELEMENTAL, MY DEAR...
PRECISELY.
--THAT'S INHUMAN!!
WHAT'S INHUMAN?
WATCHING JOHNNY CARSON PREPARE TO DO ONE OF HIS MOST POPULAR BITS, ONLY TO HAVE IT TOUCH THE PRESSURE POINT OF THE FELLOW WATCHING WITH YOU--
--KARNAK!
--THAT'S INHUMAN!!
--AND WHAT'S PROBABLY THE MOST INHUMAN OF ALL?..
LOOKING FORWARD TO A WHOLE NEW LIFE BEFORE YOU AS YOU SIT IN YOUR COLLEGE GYM AT GRADUATION CEREMONIES--
--ONLY TO FIND OUT THAT YOUR COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER IS BLACK BOLT!!
--AND THAT, MY FRIENDS, IS REALLY INHUMAN!!



STAN'S SOAPBOX

A lot has happened since last we met!

These phantasmagoric phrases are being written the week of June 27th, after my return from a whirlwind trip to Cleveland, New York, and Atlanta. Why those three cities, you wonder? I was hoping you'd ask.

Charismatic Cleveland, as all literature lovers know, is the birthplace of **Jerry Siegel** and **Joe Shuster**, the creators of **Superman**. On Saturday, June 18th, the whole town turned out to honor those two talented guys and their world-famous creation. Well, being a long-time friend of Jolly Jerry's, as well as a fan of Joe's, I brought ol' **Spidey** along, in full costume, to join in the festivities and help Marvel pay its respects to its favorite competitor.

Then, after the parade, the partying, and the inevitable panel sessions, I winged my way eastward to the hallowed halls of Marvel where dwelleth the greatest gang of goofballs this side of Yancy Street.

Luck was with me. Titanic **Tom DeFalco** was free for lunch, and though we spent most of the time fighting over who'd pay the bill (I won—he paid), we managed to cook up a few off-the-wall ideas that I'll clue you into in some future column, as soon as your security clearance checks out! I also broke bread with **Slim-Jim Salicrup**, Pandemonic **Peter David** and **Jocular Jack Abel**, who are not only three of comicdom's most talented raconteurs, but they also know the best little restaurants in town.

Another fun session was my meeting with Gentleman **Jim Galton**, Marvel's peerless president and one of my own most cherished friends. Both he and publishing veep Marvelous **Mike Hobson** arranged a meeting with the top brass of Simon & Schuster to celebrate the fact that S&S will publish a deluxe, coffee table book detailing the history of Marvel, with the most glorious full-color illustrations your hungry little eyes have ever feasted upon! The book, destined to be a classic, will go on sale towards the end of next year. And don't worry about missing it. You can be sure that we'll pound you to a pulp with impassioned sales pitches as soon as the time is ripe!

Anyway, getting back to the batty bullpen, I can't tell you how great it was yakkin' once again with Jazzy **Johnny Romita**, Happy **Herbie Trimpe**, and Generous **George Roussos**. I even had a chance to say hi to Rapid **Ron Wilson** as he was running by. But the biggest and happiest surprise of all was seeing Genial **Gene Colan** back in the fold. Good ol' Gene was one of the artistic giants of Marvel's early days and it was a real thrill to see him back in harness once again where he belongs. Now don't tell him this, but he's wasting his time in comics! He could make a fortune by simply selling his secret of eternal youth! The sonuvagun didn't look a day older than when I last saw him a century or two ago!

Anyway, from New York it was a fast jet ride to Atlanta's Fantasy Fair where DC's **Julie Schwartz** and I shared a panel and had a million laughs. I also caught up with Cantankerous **Chris Claremont** and his lovely bride-to-be, **Beth Fleisher**. Chris sure knows how to make an entrance; he arrived flying his own plane. But it runs in the family; his mom flies her own plane, too. And you thought writers were sticks-in-the-mud!

But, hey, it wouldn't be a Soapbox if I wasn't touting you about something, right? Okay then, here's the hype for today. . .

Remember the animated network cartoon, "Spider-Man and his Amazing Friends"? If you don't, see me after school. Well, ol' Spidey will be featured in a new TV series we're prepping for you called: "The Marvel Action Universe." In addition to the wondrous web-swinger, it'll also star—can you believe it?!! —**Robocop**! And as if that's not enough, wait'll you see our animated version of **DinoRiders**! But even that isn't all!

Mighty Marvel, in its infinite wisdom and boundless generosity, will reprint the comic book adaptation of "Spider-Man and his Amazing Friends," based on the first of the cartoon series and featuring everybody's favorite baddie, **the Green Goblin**! It also presents the fabulous, fantastic, flying and flaming **Firestar**!

The script was adapted by Tom DeFalco, penciled by **Dan Spiegel**, and has a new cover by **Ron Frenz**. Better place your order now—we don't want Firestar to feel neglected!

But the wonderment goes on! We've another new title coming your way. It's called SOLARMAN and features a powerful, space-roving super hero who also just happens to be a teenage comic book artist! We've got a sensational animated cartoon version of it as well, and I've a hunch you're gonna be hearing lots more about Marvel's newest and niftiest!

Well, it's wrap-up time again! I've tons more to say, but ol' Stonewall Salicrup steadfastly refuses to change the title of this mag from MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE to "Stan Unending"!

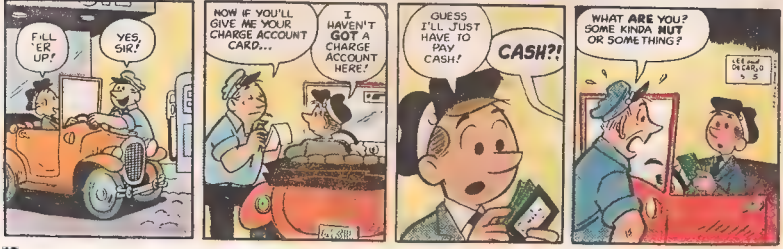
So, till we tango again next ish, stay cool, stay mellow, and stay away from the Dark Dimension—I'm beginning to suspect that **Dormammu** has no sense of humor!

Excelsior!

Stan

WILLIE LUMPKIN

© 1988 by Stan Lee and Dan DeCarlo


FILL 'ER UP!
YES, SIR!
NOW IF YOU'LL GIVE ME YOUR CHARGE ACCOUNT CARD...
I HAVEN'T GOT A CHARGE ACCOUNT HERE!
GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO PAY CASH!
CASH?!
WHAT ARE YOU? SOME KINDA NUT OR SOMETHING?
LEE and DeCARLO '88

EPIC SPOTLIGHT

STRAY TOASTERS

Think of it as like that Richard Pryor movie—Ordinary People. Of course, this would be Unordinary People - with Orwellian overtones.

So says artist and writer **Bill Sienkiewicz** in talking about his new Four-issue Limited Series for Epic Comics.

[illegible] psychologist, but I wanted to comment on the way people interact — and what really motivates them. All the darker things — obsession, repression, guilt — all that sort of stuff.

People are sort of like a stacked photo — you know, sixteen exposures on one piece of film — what you get when your film doesn't advance. It's

STRAY TOASTERS, TM and © 1988 by Bill Sienkiewicz

like the side of a cliff near a river, evidence of several geological ages all kind of sandwiched together. Complex, mystifying—very interesting."

STRAY TOASTERS is the story of an odd sort of family group: **Egon Rustemagik**, a criminal psychologist who has gone off the deep end and spent some time in an institution. Back on the street, and with two successful books to his name, he is hired as a consultant by the police to help with two different serial killers—one, a huge man who savages women; the second, an unknown who kidnaps babies, drains them of all their fluids, then leaves them on elderly couples' couches, usually in front of the TV!

Egon (or **Magik**, as he is sometimes called), doesn't really try to find the killers. He doesn't really care—as far as he's concerned, the *only* person who's important is himself. He only works for his own aggrandizement. Anything else, any other benefits from his work, are strictly coincidental and serendipitous.

"Egon is not an ordinary hero—there are really no ordinary heroes here at all. Everyone is both a villain and a hero, each with his own repressions and such molding the way he acts," Bill said.

Abby Nolan, Egon's female counterpart, is also a shrink. She had been a friend and confidante to Egon while a young and impressionable intern. But when she had a child by him, a baby that was born incomplete, she grew to hate Egon, and did what she could to destroy him.

Still, lacking that baby she feels emotionally incomplete. And so, when she finds a young child, **Todd**, on the street, she takes him into her home,

and makes him the family she *must* have.

Todd is a mixture of little boy, needy child, **Norman Bates**, and *Blue Velvet*'s **Frank Booth**. Like most kids, he wants to be a grownup, because he realizes that adults have all the power, all the ability to make decisions and have all the fun. Unlike most kids, Todd has the ability to force that growth to adult—to become **Big Daddy**, a sort of robot-extension of what Todd thinks a grownup should be. A dangerous sort of adult—especially to women.

"Everyone always wants control of what's around them—especially children. But most children can't gain that control—Todd can," Bill said.

"I wanted a chance to work with the darker, more psychological aspects of imagery," he added. "What I had a chance to do on the dark, the bare issues of THE NEW MUTANTS and ELECTRA: ASSASSIN. The dark, demonic aspects."

" 'Slow Dancer', the piece I did for EPIC ILLUSTRATED, was sort of a corollary to this. I just pictured an entire world looking a certain way and being a certain way—and people acting a certain way—a commentary on the way I feel a lot of people interact and what really motivates them.

"Todd is not really an orphan—although he might be better off as one. His real mother, **Dahlia**, is the epitome of the rich woman who's fallen off the deep end. She never really wanted Todd, and she hired a doctor to rid herself of her 'curse.' While she doesn't know the doctor failed, she somehow feels that Todd is still out there, still looking for her. And, of course, he is.

"Her 'counterpart' is one **Doctor Montana Violet**—a man none of us would want to meet. Especially as children.

"I came up with the title, STRAY TOASTERS, for two real reasons. First, I knew that most people have obsessions, things they just have to do—from looking at lingerie to dressing in women's clothing. For Todd, and, I guess, some other kids, it's kitchen appliances. Maybe because he equates the kitchen with his mother—maybe because he spent a lot of his time there.

"Also, in this society, kids are sort of like appliances—they're there to be used and gotten rid of. Disposable, like cheap kitchen stuff."

All in all, STRAY TOASTERS is not your usual sort of comic book. Not a super hero or, indeed, a normal human in sight.

"The only 'normal' character in the book is a demon from Hell. And he spends most of the book on vacation!" Bill said. "You see, most people sort of blame all the bad stuff on **Satan**, but in this book, he can tell them, truthfully, that he's not responsible. He's not the one! I sort of think of him as a different sort of **Ward Cleaver**."

STRAY TOASTERS is Bill Sienkiewicz's first attempt at writing and drawing his own project. Sort of doing it all himself. "I always wrote my own stuff—back in High School. When I started working in the comics, I sort of drifted into the art end. I've worked with a lot of writers, and I guess I became a little intimidated. But I'm interested in more illustrative stuff—darker impacts and imagery. Stuff that is more like the David Lynch sort of look. So that's why I'm doing this."

"Don't expect a Hollywood ending in STRAY TOASTERS where everyone lives happily ever after. There is a triumph of a sort—but it's not a **Spielberg** sort of thing."

"I tend to think that it is the journey that's important—not the destination. STRAY TOASTERS sort of reflects that."

STRAY TOASTERS—a different sort of project, from a man and a company that dare to be different.

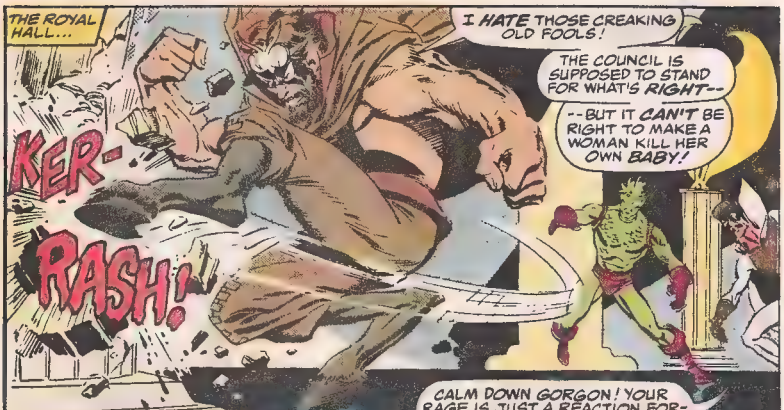
—Doug Murray

THE INHUMANS™

Her pregnancy began as the happiest moment of her life.

But soon **Medusa**, queen of the **Inhumans**, is caught in a battle to save the life of her unborn child. She is forced to flee from the arms of her husband, **Black Bolt**, and seek safety in the desert on the outskirts of the city of Las Vegas. Aside from the natural complications that arise through childbirth, Medusa must contend with the living embodiment of malevolent forces of nature. And if the "**Elemental Man**" doesn't get her, she still has to deal with her maniacal brother-in-law, **Maximus**, who is lurking just beyond the next cactus.

Surprised? Don't be. This is just one of the many subplots that weave in and out of THE INHUMANS Graphic Novel. **Ann Nocenti**, the writer who's been putting **Daredevil** through his paces as of late, has been going easy on the Man Without Fear compared to what happens to the Inhuman Royal Family in this 72-page story. When Ann's words are combined with the pencils of **Bret Blevins**, the artist responsible for the decidedly dynamic look of THE NEW MUTANTS, it's a safe bet that anything can and does happen in what is sure to be the most talked about Graphic Novel released this summer.


THE ROYAL HALL...
I HATE THOSE CREAKING OLD FOOLS!
THE COUNCIL IS SUPPOSED TO STAND FOR WHAT'S RIGHT--
--BUT IT CAN'T BE RIGHT TO MAKE A WOMAN KILL HER OWN BABY!
KER-
RASH!
CALM DOWN GORGON! YOUR RAGE IS JUST A REACTION FORMATION AUGMENTED BY--

Since their first appearance over twenty years ago (in THE FANTASTIC FOUR #45, 1965), the first family of Attilan has always been one of the most intriguing and colorful of all the **Stan Lee** and **Jack Kirby** created characters. In the tradition of their famous anti-heroes, Medusa originally appeared as a member of the **Frightful Four** nine issues before it was revealed she was a member of a race known as the **Inhumans**. Black Bolt, **Gorgon**, **Triton**, **Karnak**, **Crystal**, **Lockjaw**, and the aforementioned Medusa were in exile from the Great Refuge of Attilan, then located in the Himalayas. As the **Fantastic Four** helped Black Bolt wrest control of the kingdom from his insane brother, Maximus, they discovered that the Inhumans had been a race of incredibly powered beings who roamed the Earth while humans were still living in caves. Because these "inhumans" (actually the results of experiments by **Kree** geneticists) were feared, hated, and hunted by humans, they chose to live apart from humanity. In recent years, the polluted environment of Earth forced Black Bolt to move his entire kingdom to the pure atmospheric anomaly that is the Blue Area of the Moon. If that all sounds like enough problems for a single race to encounter, imagine how the Royal Family feels as the story begins . . .

The millennia-old aristocracy of Attilan, a governing body known as the Council of Genetics, is being challenged by the disgruntled youth of the kingdom. Because the race is the result of genetic experimentation over twenty-five thousand years ago, marriages and childbirth are strictly governed by **the Council**. Considering that some of those genetic experiments resulted in such powerful genetic abilities as Black Bolt's voice that is capable of leveling mountains, or that of the scientifically brilliant yet hopelessly insane Maximus, it is understandable that certain restrictions must be followed when couplings or

I PLAYED WITH MY POWER, FOOLED WITH ELEMENTS THAT ARE SO FAR GREATER THAN MYSELF--
--WITHOUT THE MEREST THOUGHT OF CONSEQUENCES!

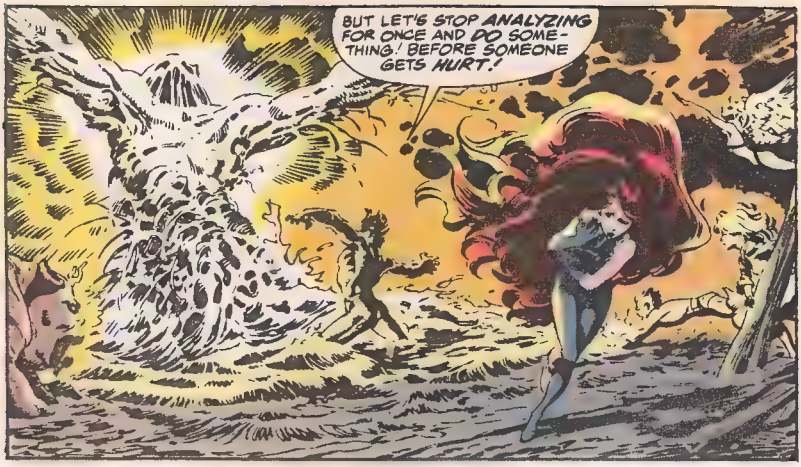
offspring are considered. Unrest abounds as the people demand the right to make their own decisions on these matters. For the second time in his reign as reluctant king of the Inhumans, Black Bolt is confronted by the possibility of a civil war.

At this point a political hot potato is thrust into his hands when Medusa and Black Bolt announce they're expecting a child, the heir-aparent to the kingdom. Normally this would be time for celebration throughout the land, but instead the Council is outraged and scared! The twelve-member board of Attilan's scientists and geneticists (of which Black Bolt is a member) ask: What will happen if the child possesses the father's power and the uncle's madness? The infant's first innocent cry could destroy the entire city!

Their word being law, they painfully hand down the decree — the unborn child must be destroyed in order to secure the safety of the entire race!

The kingdom threatens to be torn asunder as citizens of all ages question their loyalties to what they consider to be an ancient and oppressive caste system that would cold-heartedly sacrifice an unborn child on the basis of fear. Medusa quickly becomes a symbol for their cause as cries for a revolution echo throughout the Great Refuge. Caught in the middle, between the king and his kingdom, are the rest of the members of the Royal Family.

Medusa's younger sister, **Crystal**, has been ordered back to the Moon so that she might make amends with her husband, **Quicksilver**. Rather than dwell on having to live this mockery of a marriage, her heart belonging with



her teammates in the Fantastic Four, the young elemental finds relief by looking outside of herself and focusing on the problems that face her sister. When Medusa flees to Earth, willing to risk exposure to deadly pollutants before sacrificing her unborn child to the Council, it is Crystal who convinces **Lockjaw** to teleport the rest of the Royal Family in pursuit.

Nowhere is the conflict between tradition and free-thinking more clearly illustrated than in the relationship between the cousins Gorgon and Karnak. A simple soul with the ability to essentially stomp his feet and get his own way, Gorgon has always looked to the Council for its wisdom and guidance. The very thought that people are questioning the venerable ones is enough to send him into one of his many emotional outbursts. At one point he rants, "We'd all be dead if it weren't for the Council!"

"That was in the past," exclaims the ever analytical Karnak in response. "Now our race is dying *because* of the Council!" Possessed of the ability to destroy any object by finding its weakest point, it seems his ability is also an outward manifestation of his personality. Throughout the story he is constantly but subtly lashing out at everyone as a means of dealing with his anxiety over the changes that threaten to ravage the Royal Family in particular and the aristocracy of the Great Refuge in general.

As the ultimate isolationist by necessity in a kingdom of isolationists by choice, Triton's need to be submerged in water sets him apart from the rest of the Royal Family. From this vantage of distance from his cousins, Triton can clearly see that their decision to flee the Council is only another way for them to avoid their situation rather than deal with the inevitable confrontation between new ideas and old.

When Medusa, Crystal, Triton, Gorgon, and Karnak ultimately decide to stay on Earth (the young elemental uses her ability to purify the air at the cost of manipulating nature) the results are disasterous . . . (Unless one is considering the results from an artistic point of view. The "monster" created by Bret Blevins and inker **Al Williamson**, which appears halfway through the story, is certainly one of the most horrifying creatures to ever appear in the Marvel Universe.)

Of course no Inhumans tale would be complete without the inclusion of Maximus. This time, however, the maniacal one manipulates his hated cousins from behind the scenes. In his never-ending attempt to make life miserable for his brother, Black Bolt, Maximus invests in a long-term plan that he's confident will eventually destroy his sibling forever. A plan made all the more sweeter because he's certain the King of the Inhumans will be destroyed by his own child . . .

Though the story's central conflict is resolved by the end of the Graphic Novel, look for more adventures of the Inhumans in the near future. Although they'll be appearing in an upcoming multi-part saga in the pages of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS (the bi-weekly book for those readers who might be living on the Blue Area of the Moon), it's likely that Marveldom Assembled will take the Inhumans' cue and hold a revolution of their own. That's it, they can storm the Dreaded Council of Editors and demand an Inhumans' mini-series, or maybe a continuing monthly series! Better yet, a weekly series! No! No! No! A *daily* series! That's right, A DAILY SERIES ABOUT THE INHUMANS! A DAILY SERIES CALLED "THE DEATH OF ALL THE INHUMANS EXCEPT MAXIMUS!"

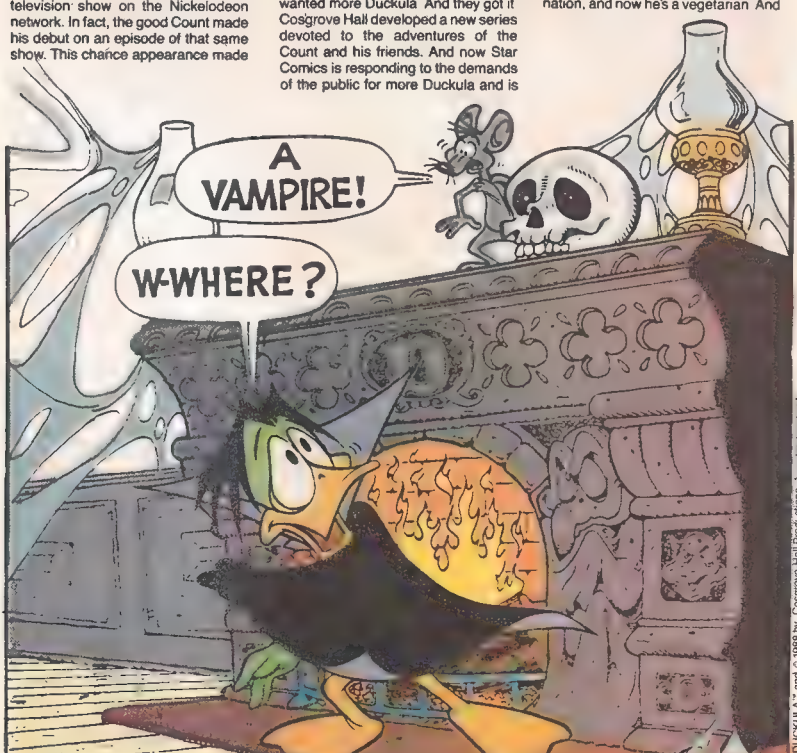
—*Maximus*

STAR COMICS SPOTLIGHT™

He stalks the night in Transylvania. No, it's not **Count Dracula**, but you're close. It's **Count Duckula**. And he's the star of a brand new offering from the Star Comics line.

Count Duckula is the product of the zany imaginations of the friendly chaps from Cosgrove Hall. Those same folks created the phenomenonally successful **Danger Mouse** who can be seen on his own syndicated television show on the Nickelodeon network. In fact, the good Count made his debut on an episode of that same show. This chance appearance made the Count an overnight success. Letters started pouring in. It soon was apparent that the Count's popularity was not a flash in the pan. The viewers wanted more Duckula. And they got it. Cosgrove Hall developed a new series devoted to the adventures of the Count and his friends. And now Star Comics is responding to the demands of the public for more Duckula and is putting out COUNT DUCKULA.

For those of you not familiar with the Count, he is a vampire. But something strange happened in his last reincarnation, and now he's a vegetarian. And



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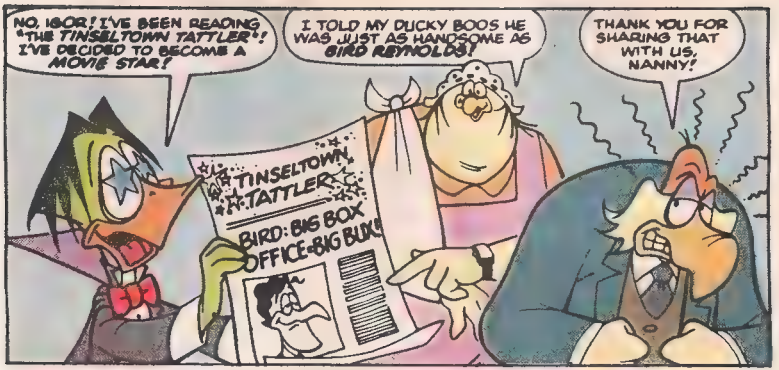

NO, IGOR! I'VE BEEN READING "THE TINSELTOWN TATTLER"! I'VE DECIDED TO BECOME A MOVIE STAR!
I TOLD MY DUCKY BOOS HE WAS JUST AS HANDSOME AS BIRD REYNOLDS!
THANK YOU FOR SHARING THAT WITH US, NANNY!
TINSELTOWN TATTLER
BIRD: BIG BOX OFFICE-BIG BUCKS

he doesn't want to be a monster anymore — he just wants to have fun. So he travels throughout the world, having the time of his life.

Of course, when Duckula goes, he goes in style. His Transylvanian mansion will take him anywhere he wants to go — him and anyone else inside the house. And at dawn (Eastern Transylvanian Time), the mansion and its inhabitants are automatically returned.

Joining Duckula in his adventures are his butler, **Igor**, and **Nanny**. Igor is the perfect vampire's butler. He would much prefer it if Duckula would act like a proper vampire — sucking blood from maidens' veins and all that stuff. He feels that Duckula has a tradition to uphold and that he's blowing it. But Duckula wants no part of it.

Nanny is a giant, dull-witted creature. She is extremely devoted to Duckula, who she calls her **"Ducky-boos."** She is very absent-minded and is more likely to crash through a wall than to enter through a doorway. Still, she's a devoted and loyal servant to Duckula.

On the other side is the Count's archnemesis, **Doctor von Gooseling**. Von Gooseling is the world's greatest vampire hunter and is determined to destroy Duckula. To this end he creates an endless stream of devices calculated to decimate the Count, but somehow his plans always go awry. He often joins the Count on his adventures, sometimes by design, sometimes inadvertently.

Duckula will be visiting many exotic locales. For instance, he visits Outer Mongolia and encounters **Attila the Hen**. Then he goes to Hollywood to become a movie star at the Alfred Peacock Studio. You never know where he'll turn up next.

Michael Gallagher, known to regular Star Comics readers for his work on such titles as ALF, HEATHCLIFF and MADBALLS, will be writing the series. **Warren Kremer**, one of the founders of the Star line, will be penciling and inking the book. "Warren is doing some of the most spectacular work of his career," Michael Gallagher told MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. "I'm glad to be a part of it."

You can be a part of it as well. Just run down to the nearest comic book shop and pick up a copy of COUNT DUCKULA.

—Sandy Hausler, J.D.

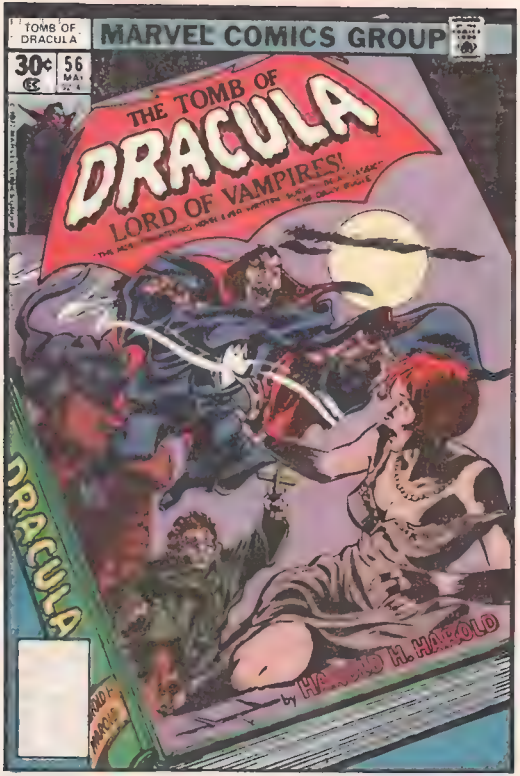
THE MARVEL AGE® 1977 PART V

Okay, time for a clarification: even though we're currently covering 1977 issues, some of them were released in the last few months of 1976. We go by cover date in chronicling these great Marvel sagas of yesteryear, rather than spend time reconstructing distribution schedules from over a decade ago. This is all to explain how, despite our present 1977 focus, this month's history includes **Howard the Duck's** 1976 Presidential campaign, in which his slogan, "Get Down, America!" was easily as inspiring as anything **Ford** or **Carter** had to offer!

Alas, Howard's political career had a lot in common with that of **Gary Hart**! When newspaper photos showed Howard sharing a bubble bath with **Beverly Switzler**, the end was near. After a bout with the French-Canadian nasty, the **Beaver**, the stress of life on Earth finally got to Howard, and a climactic showdown with the **Kidney Lady** led to nervous breakdown time! Things were no quieter in the psycho-ward, though; his young wisping — er, lisping — friend, **Winda**, was possessed by the rock group, **KISS**, and **Daimon Hellstrom** was called in for an exorcism! Fearing the exposure of his plans, the clinic's secret head, **Rev. Joon Moon Yuc**, turned the tables, and Daimon himself was exorcized — his Darksoul possessing Howard! Cleveland was terrorized by the satanic fowl until Daimon could set matters straight! **Dr. Bong**, Howard's ultimate menace (and a spurned boyfriend of Beverly's) held Howard hostage until Beverly would agree to marry him, providing a refreshingly different slant for a super-villain! But just to keep Howard out of the picture, Dr. Bong subjected him to his Evolvo-Ray — which turned him human! Howard the Human wandered, penniless and friendless, until an intimate encounter with a new woman friend got his adrenalin moving, and he turned fowl again — revitalized, and ready for vengeance! That would come in '78, but meantime, Howard's first ANNUAL took him, Bev, Winda, and **Paul Same** to the mysterious East, for a "Bad Night in Bagmom!"

Howard had the off-the-wall award for 1977 sewn up; the only book to come close — though in a wholly different fashion — was **Doug Moench's** unique MASTER OF KUNG FU! The six-part **Fu Manchu** epic saw its conclusion, as Fu's plans to blast the moon out of its orbit (and take over Earth in the ensuing chaos, of course) were foiled — but not before he resurrected **Shaka Kharn**, ancient demon warrior (not to be confused with the similar-sounding recording artist!) for a good go-round with **Shang-Chi**. In the wake of the death of their fellow agent, **James Larner**, Shang and company tried to leave British intelligence . . . but they still found themselves an espionage target! After a comic interlude with **Rufus J. Hackstabber**, his friend **Quigley J. Warmflash** (who looked suspiciously like **W.C. Fields**), and the ever-delightful **Tiger-Claw**, the super-spies were thrust into danger once more . . . at the hands of the insane assassin, **War-Yore**! Former MI-6 operative, **Eric Slaughter**, was now running amok in the guise of great former warriors — could Shang, **Clive**, and **Black Jack** best **Attila the Hun**, **St. George**, and the **Red Baron**? They survived this combat only to realize they were the human chess pieces in a very deadly game — "The Phoenix Gambit" — a little match between **Dr. Doom** and the **Prime Mover**!

Now it's time to abandon all pretense of journalistic objectivity, and talk about my runaway favorite stories of 1977: **Marv Wolfman** and **Gene Colan's** great TOMB OF DRACULA! Dracula began the year in battle with a strangely powerful, godlike golden being — a being who seemed to disappear into the portrait of **Christ** that still hung in the abandoned church where **Dracula** made his home! The Lord of Vampires could feel the disturbing eye of another lord on him as he awaited the birth of his son. While **Blade** and **Hannibal King** defeated the insurrec-



tionist vampire, **Deacon Frost**, Drac's wife, **Domini**, gave birth — on Christmas Eve . . . and so the baby **Janus** was born. **Anton Lupeski**, the Satan-worshipper whose cult Dracula had usurped, was threatened by Janus — Dracula turned Lupeski's followers to the baby as the newborn dark lord they had been promised!

Tensions rose, while **Harold H. Harold** published his vampire novel, **Quincy Harker** fought off a heart attack, and Blade rescued Safron from a vampiric cult. Then, things exploded — Lupeski teamed with the vampire hunters to kill Dracula, but the only casualty was Janus! Enraged by the death of his son, Dracula exacted his vengeance against Lupeski — but his wife, Domini, seemed strangely serene — as if she knew Janus just might return! And as surely as day follows night, Janus was resurrected — seemingly possessed by the golden angel who had battled Dracula some months before! Could even Dracula withstand what appeared to be a direct assault from the forces of the Almighty? TOMB OF DRACULA was a classic in its own time, a beautiful exploration of love and horror, of hope and fear, from a writer and artist who knew their characters as few creators ever do.

Dracula's daughter, **Lilith**, made a brief appearance in the "Haunt of Horror" issue of MARVEL PREVIEW Magazine — possessing the innocent **Angel O'Hara**, she saved Angel's lover, **Martin Gold**, from a lethal battle. MARVEL PREVIEW also presented **Thor** as he had rarely been seen before, on a blood quest with his brother, **Loki**, as chronicled by the team of **Len Wein** and **Jim Starlin**; a back-up tale matched **Hercules** against the **Medusa** of ancient myth! And MARVEL PREVIEW was also host to the further adventures of **Peter Quill**, **Star-Lord**, as lovingly told by **Chris Claremont** and **John Byrne** — a tale that would later be reprinted in color in Marvel's first Baxter book!

Also on the magazine front, SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN kept the black-and-white tradition proud. Adaptations from **Robert E. Howard's** original stories continued as the order of the day — though not always **Conan** stories! "Worms of the Earth," starring **Bran Mak Morn**, was a **Roy Thomas**/**Tim Conrad** collaboration that provided special drama in 1977, and there were frequent featurettes on **Kull**, **Solomon Kane**, and general Hyboriana. But full-length Conan novels such as "People of the Black Circle" kept the magazine one of Marvel's most dependable entertainments.

This was also the pattern with CONAN THE BARBARIAN — but while SAVAGE SWORD jumped around in Conan's life, his four-color book followed a solid chronological continuity. This phase of Conan's life found him sailing the Black Coast with his truest love, the pirate queen, **Belit**! Saving her from sacrifice to the goddess, **Ashtoreth**, Conan discovered that Ashtoreth was not a goddess at all, but the very human **Astarta**, who suffered a curse of immortality! Conan and Belit next ventured into the River Styx, fending off dragon-lizards, jungle tribes, and other threats, for Belit had heard rumor that her father might still be alive, the captive of the Stygians! On their way, they were sidetracked into "The Lost Valley of Iskander," in a three-part adaptation of the Robert E. Howard epic. Meanwhile, the CONAN ANNUAL presented full-color versions of Conan and Kull tales that had previously only been seen in black-and-white.

KULL THE DESTROYER, still exiled from Valusia, wandered onward with the minstrel, **Ridondo**, in all-new adventures by Doug Moench and **Don Glut**. His nemeses included **Shemenon**, the Volcano God; **Lorkar**, a beast-man who later became his close friend; the wizard, **Serna**; and the devil-birds and demon-shades of the pre-cataclysmic wilderness. Still the riddles lingered: would Kull regain his throne? Why did he see the usurper, **Thulsa Doom**, standing over his dying body? And on whose side was the beguiling witch-woman, **Kareesha**?

Beguiling riddles were a staple of DOCTOR STRANGE in 1977: who had brainwashed **Clea** to turn against **Dr. Strange**? Where did **Apalla**, Queen of the Sun, fit into it all? How would Stephen survive the mysterious Quadriverse? Eventually the answers came: the merciless **Xander** and the **Creators** were dark mages who sought to become living stars, and thus rule reality — and though Apalla, the personification of our own sun, sought Stephen's help, the Creators

had so disoriented him that he made the wrong moves! Thus reality was temporarily remade in the bestial image of the Creators, and thus Dr. Strange had to fight his unearthly doppelganger, **Dr. Stranger Yet**! Only the spirit of the **Ancient One**, unseen since the time he became one with the universe, could save the Master of the Mystic Arts, especially when his ultimate foe was revealed: the nightmarish cosmic entity known as . . . the **In-Betweener**!

By the way, as we went through Robert E. Howard heroes a moment ago, don't think we covered them all! RED SONJA began her own mag in 1977 (though we covered it four months back in this column), and **Solomon Kane** enjoyed his own solo feature as well, as a headliner in MARVEL PREMIERE! **Howard Chaykin's** adaptation of the Howard classic "Red Shadows" was one of the unexpected delights that made MARVEL PREMIERE so memorable. Other surprises included the debut of the 1950's super hero created by Roy Thomas, the **3-D Man**! **Hal Chandler's** test pilot brother, **Chuck**, was destroyed in a military experiment disrupted by the **Skrulls** — and all that remains of Chuck is his image, burned into the lenses of Hal's glasses! When Hal concentrates, he can merge himself with Chuck in a third powerful persona, the 3-D Man! His foes included the **Cold Warrior** as well as the secret invaders, the Skrulls. "Weirdworld," the Moench/**Ploog** creation that introduced **Tyndall** and **Velanna** of Klarn, bowed next in MARVEL PREMIERE, followed by the solo adventures of **Rom** and **Daredevil's** late friend, the **Torpedo**, as he took on the villainous **Rocketeers**!

And that wraps up 1977!

—Brian Nelson

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MARVEL PREMIERE
FEATURING
WEIRDWORLD
THE MOST INCREDIBLE FANTASY ADVENTURE SAGA SINCE J.R.R. TOLKEIN'S THE HOBBIT AND LORD OF THE RINGS!
JOIN TYNDALL'S QUEST— TO THE HEART OF EVIL AND BEYOND IN SEARCH OF THE MYSTIC DRAGON'S BLOOD!

MARVEL® COMICS PRICE GUIDE

So let's say you've got to make your 1977 Marvel collection complete, and you're worndering what you should sell from your stocks portfolio to finance the operation? For the advance planning that you and your broker will undoubtedly require, here's what you can expect to pay for back issues of the books we covered this month, at your local comics specialty shop. Our source is **Robert Overstreet's** THE COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE #18. But remember: this is only a guide. Actual prices may vary, and should be less for copies in fair or poor condition.

	CONDITION Good	Fine	Mint
■ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN**			
70–81		.50	1 00
ANNUAL 3	.30	.80	1 60
■ **DOCTOR STRANGE**			
21–26	30	90	1 80
■ **HOWARD THE DUCK**			
8–11		.60	1 20
12 (1st app **KISS**)	.50	1 50	3 00
13 (KISS app.)	.70	2 00	4 00
14–19		35	70
ANNUAL 1		40	80
■ **KULL THE DESTROYER**			
19–24		30	80
■ **MARVEL PREMIERE**			
34–39		40	80
■ **MARVEL PREVIEW (magazine)**			
10–11 (10: **THOR**; 11: **STAR-LORD**)	40	1 25	2 50
12 (**HAUNT OF HORROR**)		50	1 00
■ **MASTER OF KUNG FU**			
48–59		30	60
■ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN (magazine)**			
17–20	.60	1 75	3 50
21–26	50	1 50	3 00
■ **TOMB OF DRACULA**			
52–61		35	.70

PLACE TITLE HERE

Send your letters to: MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, c/o Marvel Entertainment Group, 387 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016.

This month's rather instructive letter column title comes to us from our good pal, John Ballentine. Thanks a lot, John! At long last, we finally know where to put the title of this furshlugginer page!

Of course, if anyone else out there has a bit of constructive advice for us or if you've got a letter column title that's just plain spiffy, don't just sit there—send it on in! After all, we still need a brand new title each and every month. And remember: if we use your idea, we'll even print your name in this very space. Who knows where something like that might lead? Fame, fortune, maybe even the whole world in the palm of your hand?

Well, maybe not. But it would be something to show your friends.

Dear all at MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

Some say I'm too old for comic books. I don't think so. I'm only twenty-one years old. I've been interested in them since I was ten years old. I've not really bought too many, so I want to make up for "lost time."

Three of the best are WEST COAST AVENGERS, THE FANTASTIC FOUR, and last but not least, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. I would like information on subscriptions to these and other Marvel comic books.

To all staff members at MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, keep up the good work.

Erick Arthur
87-32-86 WCC
P.O. Box 473
Westville, IN 47401

We'll do our best, Erick! Glad to see you're with us for the long haul.

We run a full-page subscription ad in the back of all our comics that offers special discount rates—the more subscriptions you order the more you save! Not only that, but each book's indicia (that's the block of teensy-tiny type at the bottom of the story's first page) contains subscription info as well. Be sure to send your order to the Marvel Comics Subscription Department. If you don't, your order could get delayed because it wound up in our mountain of fan mail. And we don't want that to happen!

Dear Sirs,

My name is **David Warner**, and I'm thirteen years old. I enjoy all of your comics, but the one that I completely love is IRON MAN. I'd be very thankful if you could send me the address of the person who writes IRON MAN. Thank you very much.

David Warner
73 Chester Pl.
Larchmont, NY 10538

Actually, David, you can write to David Micheline and Bob Layton, the guys who write IRON MAN, (or to any other Marvel Madmen, for that matter) the exact same way you wrote to us! Just address your envelope to the comics pro of your choice and send it c/o Marvel Entertainment Group to the address atop this very column. We'll forward it along to the guy or gal you want. Hey, is that service or what?

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

Please help me! I made a $500 bet with a friend that you would read all of my letter without stopping in the middle to read something else. So please help me win this bet! I'll even share the $500 with you if you help. Whatever you do, don't stop reading this letter until—

Ben

HURL THIS CREATURE...
MY HEALING FACTOR...
...BACK TO THE SATANIC ABYSS FROM WHENCE IT CAME!
...FINALLY DOING ITS JOB...
WHAT PRICE NOW, MONSTER, MY "PUNY, PATHETIC WORDS?"
...EXPELLING THE BROOD ENERGY FROM MY BODY...
...SAME AS IT WOULD ANY INFECTION.
REST EASY, FRIEND.
YOU'RE SAFE, NOW.
THE DANGER'S PAST.

Sorry, Ben, we got distracted for a minute. What did you say?

To the X-Perts:

As I see it, there are two main types of heroes. These are mutants and paranormals. Mutants, in my opinion, are people who were born with the x-factor gene which alters their genetic patterns and gives them super-powers (though these powers may not manifest themselves until that person is a teenager or adult). Paranormals are people who received their powers through a natural or unnatural event; for example, **Spider-Man** got his powers from the bite of a radioactive spider, and the **Hulk** got his powers from gamma rays.

Now, if this is the case (though it may not be), then wouldn't **Wolverine** be a paranormal and not a mutant? Because even though I don't know Wolverine's whole story, didn't he get his powers as the result of an experiment? Wasn't he like a guinea pig when his bones were laced with adamantium, his claws implanted, and his sense heightened? I may be wrong, but if I am, please tell me. I'm dying to know.

Eric "Cap" Hartman
13 Bluebell La.
Levittown, NY 11756

Thanks for an extremely well-thought-out and insightful letter, Eric. The answer to your question is "yes and no."

Oh, you'd like a more complete answer? Well, okay...

We think your distinction between "mutants" and "paranormals" is right on the mark (although we'd rather reserve the word "paranormal" for super-powered humans in the New Universe rather than the Marvel Universe). And according to your definition, ol' Wolvie would be *both*.

You're right about Wolverine's adamantium claws and adamantium-bonded skeleton. That was done through a secret man-made process (we're going to have to ask Chris Claremont to tell us how that happened in a WOLVERINE story). Wolverine's known mutant powers are his ability to swiftly heal himself and his superhumanly acute senses. A non-mutant ability of his, but a pretty deadly one, comes as a result of all his unarmed combat training and field experience—the guy knows how to fight, and win! For more about Wolverine and his abilities, check out THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE Deluxe Edition. It's a handy fact-filled guide on all our heroes and villains. Heck, no one here in the bullpen would be without it!

Yellow, yellow, who's got the yellow? We do, and that means it's time once again for our LETTER OF THE MONTH! Each month, we pick a letter (or if we're feeling particularly chipper, two letters) that we think will be of particular interest to Marveldom at large. Then we print it against a snappy background that looks remarkably like this one.

Cool guys that we are, we've picked two Letters of the Month this time around. The letters come to us from a couple of guys who've got a question that we think a lot of folks out there have probably been asking themselves!

Dear Marvel Agers,

A couple of weeks ago, my friend, **Juan**, asked me why they printed "Aug." in the price box in the left hand corner when it was only April 11 at the time. Of course, I didn't know why, so now I'm writing to find out why they are printed four months ahead of the present month.

Jack Barfield
Corpus Christi, TX

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

I've been collecting comics since 1985 when it was Marvel's twenty-fifth anniversary. The thing that puzzled me over the years was that comics bear a month different than the month in which they were published. Why are they?

Tony Young
6105½ Monterey Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Good question, Jack and Tony! Here's the answer:

The practice of dating comics several months ahead started 'way back in the early days of comic books, forty or fifty years ago. Back then, there weren't any comics shops or direct sales outlets, so all comics sales took place at newsstands and places like that. Now, newsdealers are used to newspapers and other periodicals that are very timely; when a newspaper's out of date, the newsdealers stop selling that issue. Not too many people want to pay to read yesterday's news.

Comic books are a lot less timely than newspapers, though. So what some early comics publishers decided to do was date the comics a couple of months ahead. That way, newsdealers who'd gotten a shipment of comics in April wouldn't return their unsold copies as soon as April was over. This would allow customers more time (and a better chance) to pick up all their favorite comics. In fact, the idea worked so well that soon, all comics publishers were doing it, and the practice continues to this day.

Those color bars at the top of the

comics are a way to let the stores know when to replace out of date comics with new ones. New comics come out every week and each week has its own color. So, for example, when a new shipment has a blue bar on the comics, the store manager replaces the old blue-barred comics with the new batch.

And here you thought we were just being messy with our crayons, didn't you?

Dear Sir or Madam,

I really love your comics. My favorites are X-MEN, CLASSIC X-MEN, and SPIDER-MAN. I have a few questions:

What is Wolverine's first name? Who invented Wolverine? Who invented the X-Men? Who invented Spider-Man?

Nathan Piekos
368 Providence St.
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Taking your questions in order, Nathan:

The only civilian name we know for Wolverine at this point is "Logan." He's been pretty quiet about the rest of his name so far; only time (and Wolverine scripter, Chris Claremont) will tell. Wolverine was created by writer Len Wein and artist Herb Trimpe back in THE INCREDIBLE HULK #s 180 and 181, although most of his personality and background is the work of Chris Claremont.

The original X-Men (now better known as X-Factor) are the creations of two of the greatest figures in Marveldom, Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. The new X-Men were introduced by Len Wein and Dave Cockrum in GIANT-SIZE X-MEN #1, but they were heavily modified and refined by Chris Claremont (gee, where have we heard that name before?) until they became the characters you see today.

The original creative team for Spider-Man was Stan Lee and Steve Ditko. According to Stan, the artist on SPIDER-MAN was originally supposed to be Jack Kirby, but Jack was so good at drawing massive, powerful characters such as the Hulk and the Thing that he kept drawing Spidey as a godlike figure instead of the skinny bookworm Stan envisioned! So Stan collaborated with Steve on the wall-crawler's adventures while Jack somehow managed to occupy himself with "only" the Fantastic Four, the Hulk, Iron Man, Thor, the X-Men, and dozens of other characters every month.

Whew! We don't know about you, but after this little review of Marvel history, we feel like turning back and trying the Marvel Age Trivia Quiz again. We might even get some answers right this time!

Whoops! Looks like the end of the page has started to creep up on us yet again! Before we turn our attention to this month's Marvel Correspondents, though, we've got a favor to ask. As always, we keep getting hundreds of great letters each month, sharing views on and questions about Marvel and those wild, wacky characters we all love. But over the past several months, we've been getting fewer letters about MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE itself. Since we want to make sure our magazine is giving you exactly what you want, we'd love to get your input! So what do you think about MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE? What do you like about it? Is there anything you'd like to see added or changed? Write in and let us know!

And just in case you don't think your opinion is going to affect our decisions, just remember that we started up the Marvel Correspondents column because a bunch of folks wrote in asking for it!

Speaking of which...

It's time to meet another batch of MARVEL CORRESPONDENTS, personable people who are looking for new friends to write to around the globe! Got a minute? Got a stamp? Then what are you waiting for? Go ahead and drop one or two of 'em a line! After all, where would we all be today if Native Americans hadn't sent Christopher Columbus a postcard saying, "Having wonderful time. Wish you were here"?

While you're busy hunting for those stamps, don't forget that you can be listed in this space too! All you have to do is send your name, address, age, and the titles of your three favorite Marvel series to Marvel Correspondents at the address at the top of this letter column. Sooner or later, you'll see your name here. Pretty darn swell of us, huh?

And now, without any further ado, here are this month's Marvel Correspondents:

Bill Mohn
Rt. 4, Box 352
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Age: 16
Favorites: THE 'NAM, G.I. JOE, G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS

Tom Ceely
2082 Ridgecrest Dr.
Dunedin, FL 34698
Age: 16
Favorites: X-MEN, G.I. JOE, AVENGERS

Brett Macdonald
108 Dalhurst Way N.W.
Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T3A 1N7
Age: 16
Favorites: All mutant titles, POWER PACK, ALPHA FLIGHT

Dwain Johnson
362-B Chance St.
Ft. Devens, MA 01433
Age: 16
Favorites: X-MEN, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, ALPHA FLIGHT

Jason Awbrey
12002 Susquehannah
Houston, TX 77065
Age: 14
Favorites: NEW MUTANTS, X-MEN, D.P.7

Tim Eischen
P.O. Box 295
Wesley, IA 50483
Age: 15
Favorites: X-MEN, X-FACTOR, G.I. JOE

Caleb "Sammy" Arbridge
2159 Chandlers Rd.
Auburn, KY 42206
Age: 13
Favorites: X-MEN, CLASSIC X-MEN, CONAN THE BARBARIAN

Mike Babington
4135 Hickory Trail E.
Indianapolis, IN 46203
Age: 15
Favorites: JUSTICE, POWER PACK, All mutant titles

Michael Yee
242 Fayette St.
Quincy, MA 02170
Age: 12
Favorites: AVENGERS, WEST COAST AVENGERS, X-FACTOR

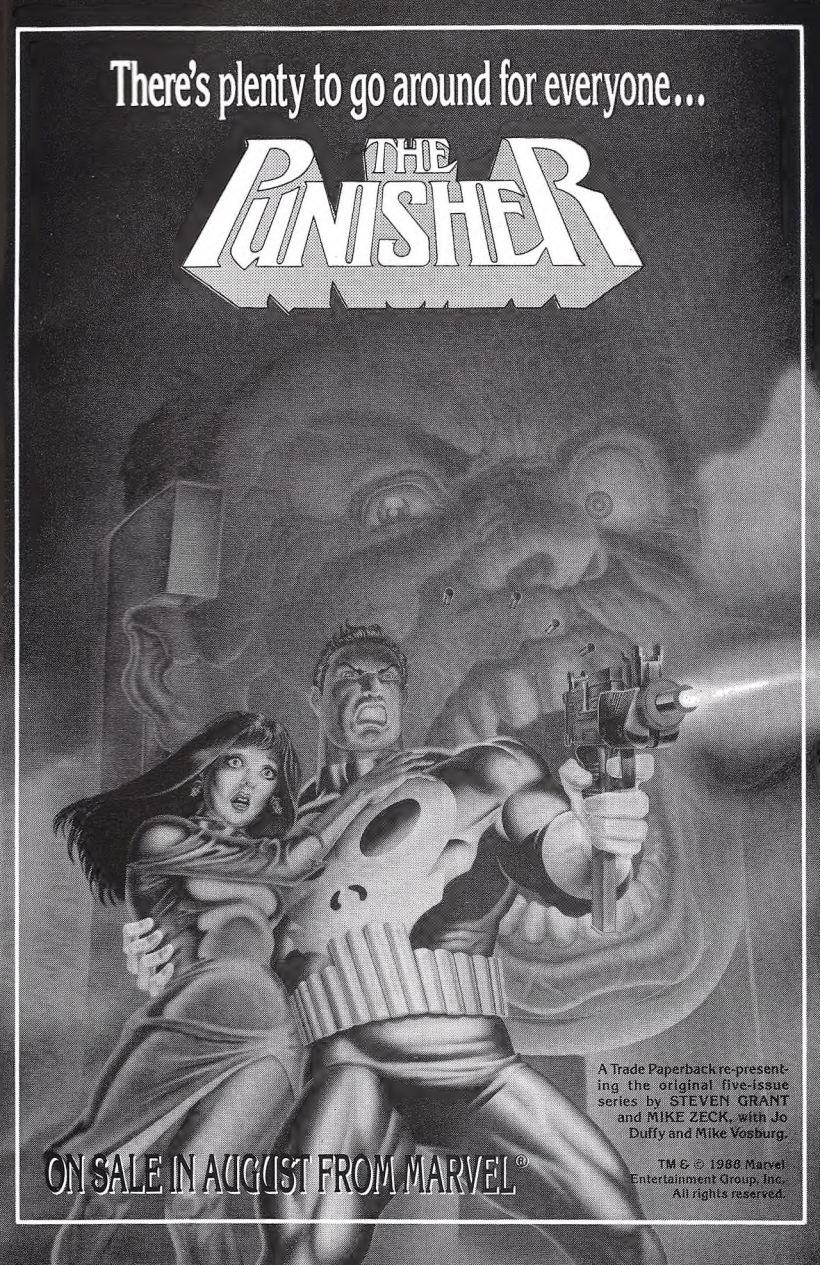
Jim Boucher
4024 Travis Pkwy.
Annandale, VA 22003
Age: 14
Favorites: IRON MAN, STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI, PSI-FORCE

ANSWERS TO MARVEL TRIVIA QUIZ

1. C	6. A	11. C	16. A
2. A	7. A	12. C	17. B
3. C	8. C	13. B	18. C
4. C	9. B	14. C	19. B
5. C	10. A	15. C	20. A

There's plenty to go around for everyone...

THE PUNISHER



A Trade Paperback re-presenting the original five-issue series by STEVEN GRANT and MIKE ZECK, with Jo Duffy and Mike Vosburg.

ON SALE IN AUGUST FROM MARVEL®

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INFERNO
GOOD MOURNING! I'M S'YM. I KNOW THAT INFERNO WASN'T SUPPOSED TO START UNTIL SEPTEMBER...
...BUT I'M NOT A NICE GUY. THAT'S WHY I JUMPED THE GUN AND STARTED THE MAYHEM A LITTLE EARLY. HAVE A BLAST! BRING MARSHMALLOWS.
I ♥ NY

THE UNCANNY X-MEN #240-242

THE NEW MUTANTS #71-73

X-FACTOR #36-38